

Britons will die and US interests suffer if Iraq is invaded, minister says

# Iraqi soldiers threaten eight embassies

By MICHAEL KNIPE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT, AND MARTIN FLETCHER

WESTERN embassies in Kuwait were surrounded by troops last night as Iraqi soldiers threatened eight embassies.

Soldiers were reported to have surrounded or be patrolling near at least eight embassies, and more than a hundred American diplomats and dependants who arrived in Baghdad from Kuwait were not allowed to leave.

Iraq renewed its threats to the United States and Britain, saying that British detainees would die and that American interests throughout the world would be endangered if there were a Western military invasion of Iraq. "If Iraqis die, so will the British civilians," the Iraqi information minister Lutfi Nassif al-Jassam said.

Iraqi troops also began to round up Saudis trapped in Kuwait. "They are being treated like Westerners," a Saudi official said.

Richard Cheney, the American defence secretary, gave a warning of military retaliation if any American diplomats were harmed, saying the United States would respond "aggressively" if provoked. For the first time, he said that America would carry a war into Iraq itself if President Saddam Hussein were "foolish enough" to attack US forces.

The Los Angeles Times yesterday quoted senior Pentagon officials as saying that if President Bush ordered military action against Iraq, "it would be a sweeping, simultaneous and lethal, designed not only to crush the huge Iraqi war-making capacity but also to destroy Hussein and his command structure."

The Western forces gathering in the Gulf received a surprise vote of confidence from President Rafsanjani of Iran, who said he had no objection to foreign forces pushing Iraq out of Kuwait as long as they left afterwards. "One possibility is that they would put a stop to aggression, which we do not mind," he said. "Any sort of help from anyone is acceptable."

The president's remarks were the first clear signal that Iran would stay out of any war

between America and Iraq. "We are trying to have this problem end without war breaking out because (the region) is like a gunpowder keg," he added. "If it is to be resolved with bombs and bullets it would mean the cutting of many oil routes, an economic crisis, a fuel crisis." He would have preferred regional

moved all its nationals out of the country and left the embassy empty.

Other nations who have said they would defy the Iraqi order and keep their embassies open included Canada, Japan, Bangladesh, Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and the 12 EC countries. The embassies being patrolled by Iraqi troops included those of the United States, Britain, France, Japan, Norway, Sweden, Romania and Hungary. Guards had orders not to let anyone in or out.

Virtually the last action of Michael Weston, the British ambassador, before he was confined to the embassy compound was to gain consular access to the ten Britons who were taken to the Meridian hotel from their homes at gunpoint on Tuesday.

Mr Hurd declined yesterday to say what Britain's response would be if Iraqis carried out their threats, but he said that it should be a collective one. He was concerned that force might be used against the embassy and its staff, and he did not expect unarmed diplomats to give physical resistance to physical force.

Mr Hurd emphasised that the Iraqi order for the embassies to close was all part of the central issue which was the act of aggression by President Saddam and the need to reverse that. "To put it bluntly the need for him and his to get out of Kuwait," it had to be "rammed home" that every Iraqi citizen would be held personally responsible for their involvement in illegal actions.

The White House spokesman, Martin Fitzwater, said there was a "high degree of danger", although he, too, declined to speculate on what action would be taken should any American diplomat be harmed. Mr Fitzwater said that Mr Bush had watched President Saddam's meeting with British hostages on Thursday, which he described as "a sick beyond expression".

One of the boys seen fleetingly in that broadcast, 15-year-old Alan Barnett, was yesterday allowed to leave for Amman from where he was travelling home to Hamilton. The boy had been among the British Airways passengers caught in Kuwait by the invasion as he was flying back to his boarding school in India. Other refugees started to flood across the border to Jordan after it was re-opened yesterday.



Free at last: Brian Keenan, reportedly released by his abductors in Beirut

## Hostage Keenan freed, says Iran

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN DAMASCUS

IRISH hostage Brian Keenan was freed in Beirut at last night, Iran's official news agency reported.

The Islamic Republic News Agency, in an English-language dispatch monitored in Nicosia, said: "Irish hostage Brian Keenan has just been set free." It added: "Informed sources told IRNA in Beirut that Keenan was freed at 2100 local time."

The agency gave no other details. Earlier yesterday as fresh reports emerged that Mr Keenan's release was imminent, his sisters Brenda Gillham and Elaine Spence, travelled from their homes in Belfast to Dublin for a meeting with Irish foreign ministry officials.

The Irish government had also put its contingency plan into operation, preparing an

## India hit a record against England

INDIA'S cricketers amassed 606 for nine wickets declared yesterday, their highest score in 78 Test matches against England, on the second day of the third Cornhill Test at the Oval.

It was a demoralising day in the field for England, who now must bat well to save the match.

Ravi Shastri, undefeated overnight on 135, went on to record his Test best score of 187 before edging Malcolm to first slip at 478. Kapil Dev then maintained India's charge, scoring the fourteenth century of the series.

In reply, England lost Asherton to Pankaj for seven to close on 36 for one wicket, 570 runs behind.

● In the wake of England's World Cup success, the English League football season opens today on an optimistic note. Liverpool, the champions, begin their defence against promoted Sheffield United at Bramall Lane. Tottenham Hotspur's home match against Manchester City is sold out.

Match report, page 23  
Preview, page 25

## Readership increase

THE TIMES has increased its readership by more than one eighth in the last year. FIGURES released by the ICMARS national readership survey show that in the first six months of this year The Times increased its number of readers to 1,230,000. The paper had 1,40,000, or 12.8 per cent, more readers than it had in the first half of 1989.

The increase was not equalled by any other newspaper. In the same period The

Daily Telegraph lost almost one-tenth of its readership - 245,000 down on 1989. The Independent also registered a decline in readership for the first time, losing 49,000 readers, a drop of 4.2 per cent.

The figures take no account of the further increase in readership of The Times which resulted from the successful introduction of The Times Saturday Review, launched since the period to which the survey relates.

## Pretoria imposes tough law on black townships

FROM GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

PRETORIA has imposed what amounts to a state of emergency in almost 30 black townships in the Transvaal, where more than 500 people have been killed in black-against-black violence in the past two weeks.

Adriaan Vlok, the minister of law and order, announced the decision to implement special security legislation as additional army reservists were called up yesterday to support riot police in the worst-affected areas. Mr Vlok said the normal laws of the country were not sufficient to deal with the violence and he was therefore declaring 27 townships in and around Johannesburg "unrest areas" under the Public Safety Act.

The number of police assisted by troops would be "drastically" increased, he said, and the carrying of weapons, spears as well as garden forks, would be banned. Appealing for an end to the violence, he said he would not hesitate to take even tougher steps.

A Johannesburg lawyer said the crackdown involved powers of arrest and detention just as wide as those provided for in a general state of emergency.

Mr Vlok said that since the national emergency was lifted on June 8, except in Natal, the government had tried to prevent strife and promote the peace process by stepping up police action, having intensive discussions with political leaders and establishing liaison forums between the police and various organisations.

Despite these positive steps, hundreds of people had been killed in widespread violence involving shooting incidents, hand-grenade attacks and large-scale destruction of property. "Such destruction of human life and property is senseless and unacceptable. It cannot be allowed to continue," he said.

Earlier, during a television phone-in programme, President de Klerk said his government could not allow anarchy to prevail or radicals to set the country on fire. "We will do everything possible to keep order. We cannot prevent every incident of violence... but when it does occur the police will deal with it."

Nelson Mandela, the deputy president of the African National Congress, rejected the government's measures as useless and unnecessary, and expressed annoyance that his organisation had not been consulted. After meeting Mr de Klerk he said: "Issues of this nature, which we are addressing, require consultation. I totally disagree that these measures are necessary."

Mr Mandela appeared to rule out direct peace talks with Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the leader of the Zulu Inkatha organisation, whose members are virtually at war with the ANC in many townships, saying that the issues could not be resolved by individuals.

"They should be resolved by the organisations involved, and we are talking already," he said.

## Saturday Review

### The appealing Mr Dance



When Charles Dance gazes out at an audience it is dominated by women, yet in Hollywood he is not considered 'bankable'

### Heat in the kitchen

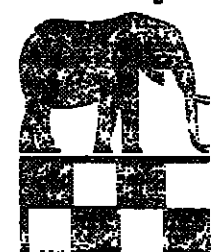
Ruth Mott, famous for her Victorian kitchen series on television, talks about teenage life below stairs

### George Melly on 'Jelly Roll'

The 'sweet, hot rhythm' of 'Jelly Roll' Morton, discussed by George Melly

## WEEKEND LIVING

### Have a Jumbo holiday



Cryptic or concise? Our weekend Jumbo crossword comes in both forms

### A stitch in town and country

Marion Foale, the knitwear designer, on her back to front double life

## SPORT

### Running into Europe



Sebastian Coe on the European athletics championship which starts on Monday. And Chelsea manager Bobby Campbell welcomes the new football season

## WEEKEND MONEY

### What they know about us

How to find out what credit agencies know about you and why some people want them to know more

### Pension pitfalls

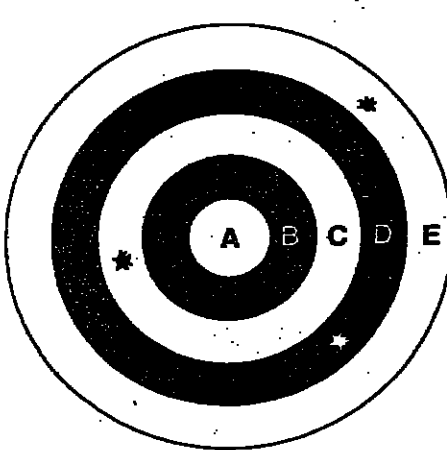
Think twice before you transfer a frozen pension to a private scheme

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On Monday The Times will publish a full list of degree course vacancies at universities and colleges.

OS



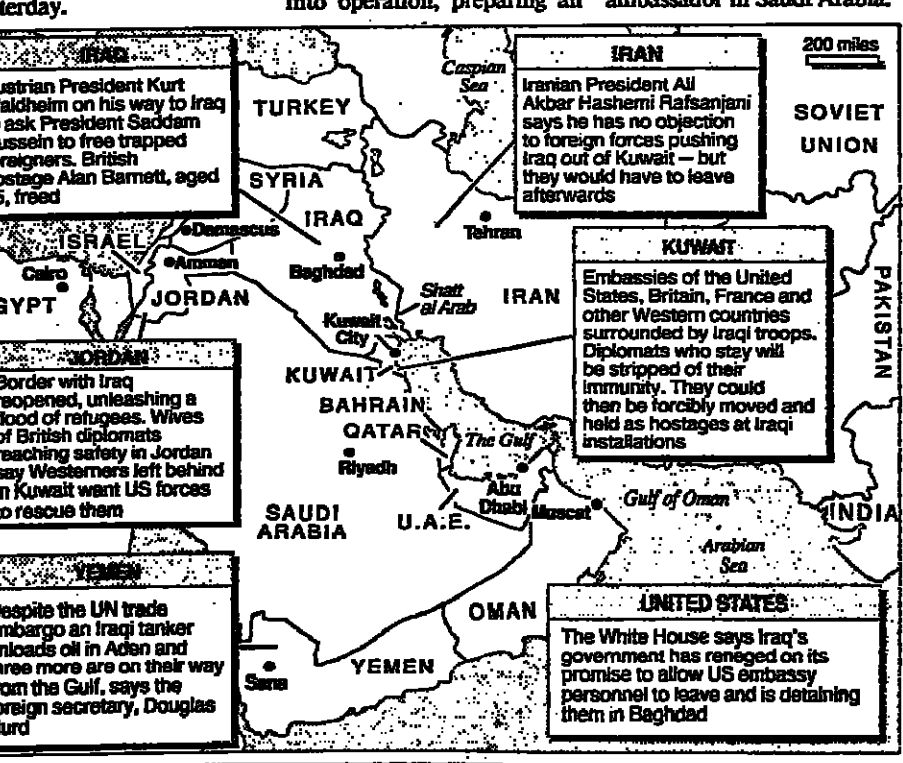
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## Asian families say thanks a million to Britain

By COLIN CAMPBELL

THEY might have come to Britain by boat as penniless immigrants from India or Pakistan after independence in 1947. They might have arrived at Heathrow, on British Airways, economy class, having fled Idi Amin's Uganda. But of the estimated 1.5 million Asians in Britain today, up to 300 are millionaires, according to Management Today, the business magazine.

Of the 50 richest Asians, 44 live and work in London, and their homes could well be in Harrow or the Bishops Avenue in Hampstead. Their could work in Wembley, Northolt or Southall and many will have dined with royalty. Management Today estimates their total wealth at almost £2.6 billion, enough to finance more than 10 per cent of the defence budget, or the equivalent

of 0.4 per cent of Britain's gross domestic product. Their business interests are invariably dominated by property. As a group, Asians have an almost blind faith, irrespective of religion or caste, in the value of bricks and mortar. Hotels are a logical extension of this interest and there are several notable hoteliers among the 50.

The Rabheru family came to Britain in 1970 from Tanzania and moved into the property business by buying old hotels to spruce up. Today they own the Park Hotels Group, a chain of 11 luxury country hotels stretching from Cheltenham to Brighton, via Kensington and Bayswater. The estimated value of their total assets is £150 million.

Nazmu Virani, head of Control Securities, Britain's largest Asian com-

pany, runs 23 hotels and 770 public houses, worth about £650 million. "We eat business, we drink business, we are talking about business at the breakfast table, at the lunch table, at the dinner table," he told the magazine.

Srichand and Gopichand Hinduja, two of four brothers, control one of the world's largest and most secretive trading empires, started by their father, Parmchand Deepchand Hinduja, which stretches from India to the Middle East and includes Switzerland and Britain.

The Asian road to wealth has also trod the path of food and clothing, cash and carry operations, specialist spice or rice businesses, jeans and textiles. A handful

Continued on page 22, col 6



Nazmu Virani: eating, and drinking business

Leading article, page 11



## THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE

## UN runs out of steam in the real world of power politics

By ROSEMARY RIGHTER

PRESIDENT Gorbachev's ultimatum to Iraq last night, telling President Saddam Hussein to pull out of Kuwait or face "additional measures" by the United Nations, returns the UN Security Council to some semblance of life, and none too soon. In the first week after Iraq invaded Kuwait, the United Nations astonished the world. With only two abstentions, the security council voted to condemn the invasion while President Saddam's troops were still "mopping up" in Kuwait city, in an uncompromising resolution demanding Iraq's unconditional withdrawal.

Gone was the dreary charade of the veto. The Soviet Union, Iraq's armoured and close ally, was as forthright as Washington or London in its public strictures. The permanent members, America, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China, acting as one, spent the weekend drafting a further resolution which on August 6 imposed comprehensive sanctions on trade with Iraq.

More significant, resolution 661 made UN history by activating Chapter VII of the UN Charter which is the UN's war-making authority to deal with "acts of aggression".

Chapter VII requires the security council to act

if its demands are disobeyed, first by peaceful measures and then, if the council believes these are or would be inadequate, by using whatever "air, sea or land forces" are needed to drive back the aggressor. Forty-eight hours later, Iraq defied the security council by announcing it had annexed Kuwait. Unanimously, the council declared its action illegal.

Then, silence, a silence the outside world has found impossible to comprehend. The UN secretary-general departed for Latin America on a pre-planned trip from which not even Iraq's announcement on August 17 that it would use foreign civilians as hostages deflected him. The security council's demand for their release was accompanied only by the dispatch of UN officials to expostulate in Baghdad (from which UN staff were being evacuated). The UN had no power to stop further violations of international law by President Saddam - unless it advanced further down the Chapter VII road, to military action.

Yet when America and Britain, citing the catch-all collective self-defence clause of the charter, article 51, ordered their navies in the Gulf to use minimum force if necessary to stop sanctions-busting, they drew coos of disapproval from diplomats in Turtle Bay, the UN's headquarters

on the East River. Iraqi tankers headed down the Gulf and one slipped into Aden. On Monday, the United States sought the security council's blessing to use minimal naval force to stop them.

Instead of rallying in the face of evidence that Iraq was determined to evade UN sanctions, the security council shied at the critical fence. The Soviet Union, having insisted on the need for UN endorsement of a blockade, declined to follow through. The council embraced the doubtful assurances of Yemen, a warm friend of Iraq, that the tanker would not be allowed to discharge its oil as an excuse for deserting a vote.

In a week when the United States, its Arab allies and almost every country in Western Europe have been accelerating military preparations, the UN has reverted to the familiar diplomatic game of haggling over small print.

Parallels with the Falklands, when Britain won strong early backing from the UN only to see it evaporate as fighting loomed, suggest themselves. The ghost of the League of Nations, which in 1935 imposed sanctions against Italy for invading Abyssinia and lost all credibility when it failed to enforce them, stalks the UN's corridors. Must the UN always run out of steam just when it matters? The answer may be that military enforcement

under the UN umbrella marks such a break with 50 years of diplomatic history that hesitation was inevitable. Soldiers under the UN flag have never before been required to shoot: the "blue beret" UN peacekeeping forces interpose their bodies between combatants, firing only in self-defence.

The great powers have much at stake, and none more than the Soviet Union - the sincerity of whose belated conversion to the UN here confronts the decisive test. As recently as 1985, the Kremlin's attitude to the UN was decidedly negative. But in January 1987, the Soviet Union began co-operating in five-power consultations over the Iran-Iraq war and that September President Gorbachev made the volte-face official.

Having assigned the UN a decisive role in preventing and dealing with armed conflicts, the Soviet Union has sought to use the security council to assert its claims to equal partnership with the Western powers. That is why the Kremlin has been so insistent on bringing UN military action under the joint control of the five permanent members, using the long-moribund Military Staff Committee. Its case is strong because the committee, comprising the chiefs of staff of the "Big Five", is charged under Chapter VII with "the strategic direction of any armed

forces placed at the disposal of the security council". But the Americans are equally determined to retain operational freedom, using the UN as an umbrella, not a command structure. And the Pentagon has the deepest reservations about the notion of military "partnership".

That, even more than President Gorbachev's need to watch his back with the Soviet military (and get Soviet citizens out of Iraq), has been the reason for the delay in bringing an enforcement resolution to the vote. The Cold War may be over: superpower rivalry is not. The Soviet Union, looking beyond the Gulf affair, wants to lay down firm precedents for its involvement in any future use of the UN. The Kremlin has become the world's most ardent advocate of President Roosevelt's idea that the great powers should operate as "global policemen".

Moscow will settle for a loose "co-ordination" of the naval blockade by the Military Staff Committee. But if the next step, military action on the ground to drive Iraq out of Kuwait, has to be taken, the Soviet Union is likely to demand a unified UN command as its price for withholding its security council veto. The silence at the UN derives in part from its unprecedented proximity to the real world of great power politics.

## Finger pointed at Libya over arms shipments to Iraq

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT, AND JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

IRAQ is receiving shipments of chemical-warfare products and other military materiel in violation of United Nations sanctions, the United States announced yesterday. Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, declined to identify the supplier, but a UN source suggested that Libya was involved.

In additional indications of sanctions-breaking, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said a second Iraqi oil tanker, the Babo Gorgor, was in port in Aden and three more appeared to be on their way there from the Gulf "presumably full of Iraqi oil for refining".

Mr Hurd was disclosing some of the British intelligence evidence of sanctions-busting that the government has given to the UN sanctions committee in New York in the hope of convincing Security Council members of the urgent need of taking action to enforce the blockade of Iraq.

In Washington, Mr Fitzwater said Baghdad was receiving aviation shipments

"of one kind or another, military materiel that appears to be coming in through some routes, in addition to the procurement of chemical-warfare products which we have great concern about".

It was important that the sanctions should be effective and comprehensive, Mr Fitzwater said, adding that the White House was confident that a UN resolution would be agreed soon.

Britain and America are pressing the security council to adopt a resolution that would endorse action taken by their ships to prevent sanctions-busting. Mr Hurd said the tabling of such a resolution had been delayed to find a form of words that would accommodate the wishes of the Soviet Union, whose consent was necessary.

A Whitehall source said the delays on the Soviet side were believed to be caused by bureaucratic red tape in Moscow rather than a difference of view. "This is a very serious resolution, the like of which has not been seen before at the

UN, and everyone agrees that it is important to get the wording absolutely right," the source said.

The British intelligence information, passed to the sanctions committee on Thursday, revealed that the activities of the four tankers was in addition to that of the Iraqi tanker Aimzala, which discharged oil at an Aden refinery on August 21 and led to Yemen's UN delegation giving an undertaking that it would be stopped from discharging any more of its cargo. Mr Hurd said it had stopped.

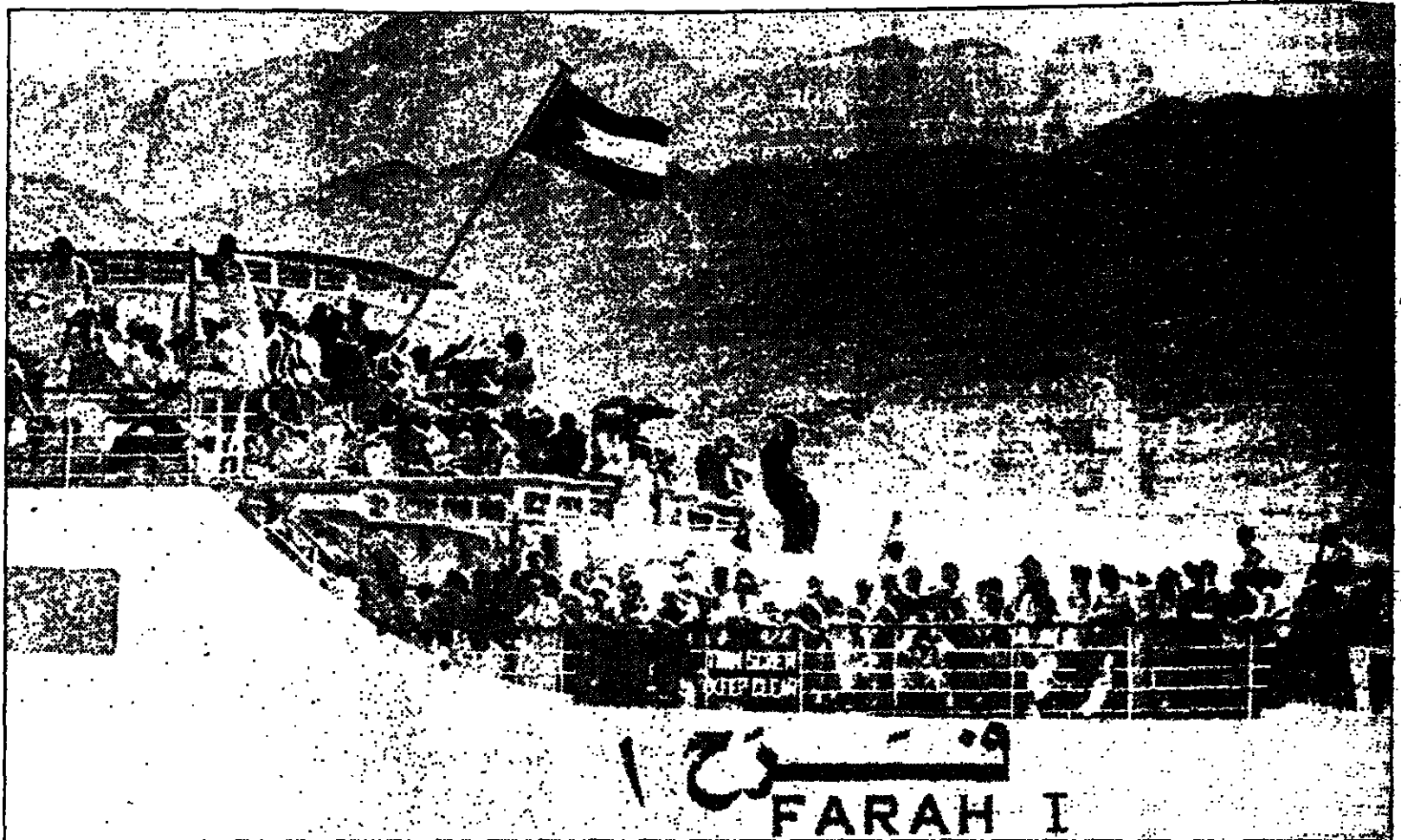
"Iraq is vulnerable to sanctions," Mr Hurd added. "Her trade and her place on the map are such that she actually can be very seriously hurt by sanctions, provided they are fully applied." For this reason, and the evidence of sanctions-breaking, the security council deliberations in New York were not merely ritualistic. Britain and America had no doubt about the legal basis on which their navies operated, but they were anxious that the basis should be internationally accepted. That was why it was urgent that the security council should reach a conclusion as soon as possible on a new resolution.

Both Britain and the United States presented photographic evidence of alleged sanctions-busting to the a closed-door meeting on Thursday night of the UN committee set up to monitor the enforcement of sanctions.

A source at the meeting said Britain presented three pictures, two of oil tankers and one of tanks at a Libyan port. Sir Crispin Tickell, Britain's UN representative, said afterwards that Iraq was resorting to a "whole variety of means" to evade sanctions. He added that he had discussed "certain violations which might be taking place over supplies of arms".

Thomas Pickering, the US representative, said he gave details of efforts by Iraq to send "ships to export oil all around the world - many of them". He also spoke of "many efforts by Iraq to illegally import many different commodities, arms, machinery, steel, all kinds of things". Asked if any particular country was implicated, he said: "Libya, I think, was mentioned."

Leading article, page 11  
Letters, page 11



Homeward bound: Hundreds of Egyptian workers who have fled Kuwait and Iraq on board a ship leaving the Jordanian Red Sea port of Aqaba

## Trapped Westerners want US rescue from a city of fear

FROM REUTER IN AMMAN

WESTERNERS trapped in Kuwait want the US military to rescue them from a city of fear. British diplomats' wives who fled the emirate said yesterday.

"Get the Americans in here fast," was the message brought by the exhausted wife of one Briton from Western friends in Kuwait.

The woman was among 42 British embassy dependants who made an arduous 26-hour journey across the desert from Baghdad to Amman. She refused to be named because her husband was still in Kuwait.

Interviewed by Independent Television News (ITN), she said: "Nobody is optimistic any more. Some were until four or five days ago, but not any more."

The most immediate fear was hunger, she said. Iraqi authorities were trying to restore law and order by summarily hanging looters, creating a climate of fear. She said that Iraqi soldiers had raped a German woman whom she knew, but she could not confirm other reported rapes. She blamed the looting on Iraqi reservists and some of the foreign residents, and said Iraqi regulars were "nice and correct".

A Kuwaiti-born British woman said: "Anything you can think of has all gone to Iraq. They vandalised everything." Kuwaitis were hiding Westerners in defiance of the severe penalties threatened by Iraq. The resistance was small in scale but underground fighters had managed to kill many Iraqi soldiers. "People are not willing to... let the others just walk over them," she said. "Neighbourhoods are almost empty. Everybody hides inside, nobody goes out except to get food."

Fear of an imminent military showdown was rife. The streets were teeming with Iraqi soldiers, tanks and missiles. A fearful woman with a German accent, married to a Briton, said looters had stripped Kuwait's luxury hotels. "Nobody can find any furniture, or carpets or curtains, nothing." She said Iraq had turned clocks in Kuwait to Iraqi time and changed car number plates to Iraqi ones. "They looted the whole city, nothing is left there, no cars, no buses, all kinds of transportation just disappeared. It's a disaster... I can't believe that somebody could make such a disaster in such a short time like Iraq did."

As far as the eye could see were groups trying to find shelter from noonday temperatures above 43C (110F). Many had towels on their

## Nightmare of despair for thousands of refugees

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN RUWEISHID, JORDAN

THE Gulf confrontation has created a nightmare at this remote Jordanian border crossing where thousands of starving, thirsty, exhausted and despairing refugees seek solace from the sun as they try to find a way home.

The lucky ones pay 10 dinars (about £13) each to be packed, 100 a time, into unventilated containers or cattle trucks and driven ten hours to Aqaba. There, delays of three days or more can be expected before a ferry takes them to Nuwaira, Egypt.

The less privileged, mostly children, become ill and occasionally die from heat-stroke and dehydration. Hundreds were sick with gastric diseases because the only available water was dirty and sanitation was rudimentary. Exhausted Jordanian border officials were unable to provide exact figures of deaths, but reliable Arab sources claimed that more than 15 people so far had died in the exodus through Jordan. There were no signs of medical services at Ruweishid.

As far as the eye could see were groups trying to find shelter from noonday temperatures above 43C (110F). Many had towels on their

heads, others sat under blankets hung from the one fence or huddled under umbrellas and some attempted to squeeze under vehicles.

Many of the refugees, the majority of whom are Egyptians, have spent five hungry and thirsty days to reach this point. They said that two pieces of bread had been permitted per family.

"We are the people who stood against Saddam Hussein and we are abandoned here without food or drink," one young Egyptian said. "Why is it that the world will not help us. We have no money because every dinar was left in Kuwait banks or stolen from us."

Rafiq Hegazi, a doctor from a Kuwait hospital, is living in his car with four children, aged seven, five, three and two. "I was married to a Kuwaiti woman and had lived there for 15 years. But when we came to leave, they said that my wife was now legally an Iraqi and she could not accompany me. So I was left to continue with the children, but it is impossible to care for them in these conditions, as you or anyone can see."

Dr Hegazi said there were no medicines available, no

facilities for boiling milk or water and that hygiene was deteriorating rapidly. "This is worse than a catastrophe. There is no one in charge and no one who seems able to stop disease spreading," he said. "People are powerless to do anything but wait and wait."

The Jordanian authorities said the border, closed since midnight on Wednesday, would be opened again at 4pm yesterday. Officials claimed they would be able to cope with 20,000 refugees a day.

A senior Western source in Amman said the decision to reopen the border had been taken because Iraq had threatened to start shooting the thousands of Egyptians gathering there in equally squalid conditions.

To add to the problems at Ruweishid, Egyptians said that up to 20,000 refugees were camping with no water at all in the 50 miles of desert scrubland that lie between this last Jordanian checkpoint and the first on the Iraqi side.

Diplomatic sources said that at least 300,000 of the 1.6 million Egyptians living in Iraq were expected to try and flee in the next few days.

CAIRO: Egypt is grappling to repatriate its nationals who have fled Iraq and Kuwait only to end up as refugees in overcrowded, unsanitary desert conditions. (A Correspondent writes).

Since the invasion, 185,000 refugees, three-quarters of whom are Egyptian labourers, have tried to leave Iraq and Kuwait. There are 36,000 waiting at the Ruweishid immigration post in Jordan and in the no man's land 50 miles east; 20,000 wait on the Iraqi side of the border. They wait for transportation home.

In the past few days, Cairo has sent military transport planes and scheduled extra Egyptian flights. The European Community planned to start an air lift, costing about £680,000, yesterday. A sea link has also been approved between Aqaba and Cairo to carry 3,000 passengers daily, according to Soliman Metwalli, the minister of transport and communications and shipping.

On Thursday, 20 planes carried 4,368 Egyptians from Aqaba to Cairo.

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## CORRECTION

Our guide to the Middle East blockade (August 18) should have shown the US aircraft carriers Saratoga, Eisenhower and Independence as having 60 combat aircraft each, not 20.

## Risks in Waldheim visit to Baghdad

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN VIENNA

AUSTRIAN politicians yesterday expressed concern over President Waldheim's planned meeting today with President Saddam.

Franz Vranitzky, the chancellor, said on Austrian radio that Dr Waldheim's trip to Jordan and Iraq was "full of risks". He said that in principle, while he was for anything that would win the release of Westerners being held in Iraq and Kuwait, the visit could be used for propaganda purposes by President Saddam or give the appearance that Austria was moving away from the international community's unified stand against Iraq.

Other politicians said they were "shocked" and "dismayed" by the president's decision to go. "He is only doing it for selfish reasons to get off the 'watch' list," said one official, referring to the US Justice department's list of people prohibited from entering the United States.

Before Dr Waldheim left for

Amman yesterday, where he met King Hussein of Jordan before travelling to Baghdad today, he acknowledged the risks inherent in his mission, but said: "When one does not take risks, one does not gain anything."

He said his primary goal was to secure the release of more than 100 Austrians who have not been allowed to leave Iraq, and he hoped his efforts would also result in the release of other Western hostages. But he said he would not "negotiate" with President Saddam, whom he knows from his term as secretary-general of the United Nations. "There is no bargaining here," Dr Waldheim said.

He also said his visit did not mean Austria supported the Iraqi leader's actions. "We are sticking to the resolution of the United Nations of sanctions against Iraq," Dr Waldheim said. His meeting with President Saddam had been arranged through King Hussein.

## MP believes more British children missing in Gulf

By RAY CLANCY

MARGARET Thatcher yesterday expressed her deep concern after hearing that up to five unaccompanied British children are hostages in the Gulf and she warned President Saddam she would hold him personally responsible if anything happened to Western detainees.

The prime minister was told about the plight of the youngsters only hours after it was

confirmed that Alan Barnett, aged 15, had arrived safely in Jordan after being released by the Iraqis.

Mrs Thatcher was told about the children, three of whom were on the British Airways flight stranded in Kuwait, when she visited the Gulf Support Group, set up by relatives and friends of people stranded in the Middle East.

She spent 40 minutes with volunteers who are manning the 24-hour helpline in central

London. "I am very concerned for the relatives and about some children who cannot be traced. The information is excellent but this is the most troubling thing of all," the prime minister declared after her visit.

She also warned President Saddam not to take any steps that might endanger British people, especially diplomats who are remaining in Kuwait despite being told to leave. "If

anything happens to them it will be the responsibility of a dictator, who seized another country with force, guns and tanks. Every bit of the blame is down to him."

Robert Hayward, the Conservative MP for Kingswood, Bristol, who helped set up the support group, said that he knew where three children were in Baghdad and Kuwait; there was one other child definitely in the area whose whereabouts was unknown,

and there was a possibility a fifth child was also there.

The family of Stuart Lockwood, aged five, who was seen on television being cuddled by President Saddam, yesterday said they had been repulsed by the bizarre fiasco. "Stuart looked frightened to death. It was a terrible thing to make a boy of that age go through. I would have been frightened and I am a grown man," said Philip Campbell, Stuart's uncle.

"It was not Saddam Hussein who worried us most. It was the army general at the back who kept stroking Stuart round the face and head. He was the most threatening one there. He didn't look very sincere."

Stuart's parents, Derek and Glenda Lockwood, and his elder brother, Craig, aged 14, were also among the group of British hostages filmed in Baghdad.

"Stuart's a smashing little boy. He loves video games and playing football and he gets into trouble by breaking things. But that wasn't Stuart last night and it wasn't Derek or Glenda either."

"Glenda looked really drawn and worried and very nervous," Mr Campbell said.



Mrs Thatcher expresses deep concern for Western hostages to Gulf Support Group members yesterday

## Freed pupil's parents tell of their joy

By KERRY GILL

THE parents of Alan Barnett, the Scottish schoolboy released by President Saddam, yesterday described their surprise and delight that their son was returning to Britain after being trapped in the Middle East for three weeks. Alan, aged 15, was stranded in Kuwait when his British Airways plane was impounded during the Iraqi invasion.

As Alan arrived in Amman, Jordan, on his way to London, Bill and Anne Barnett, of Hamilton, said their happiness was tinged with sorrow for the families still kept in Baghdad.

Mrs Barnett said she was "tremendously thrilled and overjoyed" to hear that her son was safe. Mr and Mrs Barnett said they received the news that

Alan might be freed at midnight on Thursday from British Airways. His imminent freedom was then broadcast on Iraqi radio.

The past weeks had been very difficult, said Mrs Barnett. "I am sure that many other relatives in the country have felt the same way as we have done, just going from day to day waiting for news and hoping and praying that something would be done soon," she said.

Mr Barnett said they had caught glimpses of Alan during the interview on Iraqi television when President Saddam paraded Western hostages. "Occasionally he came on to the screen. He was sitting on the left-hand side of the screen in a blue shirt and shorts and you can imagine when we first saw him what we

felt like because we had had no news for a week," he said. "We had had some news 10 days ago that he was in Baghdad and then nothing at all, and there he was in front of us. We were just so happy to see him, looking so well and fit and, for us, it was great to see him there."

Mrs Barnett said they had spoken to Alan by telephone yesterday once he arrived in Jordan. She said he had appeared well and excited. Alan, she added, most likely had considered the episode an adventure. He told his parents that he had had plenty to eat and had been playing games and swimming.

Mr Barnett said Alan had been on his way back to boarding school in India where he has been a pupil for the past eight years.



## THE INVASION OF KUWAIT: THE MIDDLE EAST

## Saddam's military strategy causes surprise in West

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein has begun to redeploy his elite Republican Guard divisions which carried out the nine-hour invasion of Kuwait, but there is no clear indication yet whether they are being prepared for an assault on Saudi Arabia or a defensive role in the event of an American attack, according to Western intelligence sources.

The latest intelligence is that the three mechanised and armoured Republican Guard divisions which were located south of Kuwait city have now moved north-west to a desert region at Al Jahrah. The assessment is that this is just a staging post and that they will either move further north into Iraq towards Baghdad or that they will regroup for an attack against the Americans.

The other four divisions of Republican Guards, all infantry, are still in Kuwait city. But according to the latest intelligence, they are now showing signs of packing up, ready to move north.

President Saddam's military tactics have caused some surprise. Following the successful invasion of Kuwait, the normal tactic would have been for the elite units to be replaced almost immediately by regular divisions, who would then take up garrison positions, leaving the Republican Guards, Iraq's strategic reserve force, to regroup and prepare for the next offensive.

"We expected the Republican Guard divisions to be pulled back 30 to 60 miles," one source said.

However all seven Republican Guard divisions stayed in position. The intelligence assessment was that President Saddam was taken aback by the international reaction to the invasion and considered it wise to postpone redeployment, to give him the option of moving across the border into Saudi Arabia in a quick offensive.

But this option was abandoned, partly because the Americans moved F15s and F16s very rapidly into Saudi Arabia, once the kingdom had requested military assistance, and partly because his Republican Guard divisions are not geared for long periods of offensive action.

Sources said that, although these elite Iraqi forces are trained on the lines of the Soviet "operational manoeuvre groups", they do not have the same staying power. Soviet operational manoeuvre groups have been trained for an East-West war, to mount an offensive that does not stop until they have reached the Channel. "We learned from the Iran-Iraq war that the Iraqi Republican Guards operate in short bursts and need to regroup before considering another attack," one source said.

Having waited before

withdrawing his main offensive units, President Saddam appears to have given orders for the three mechanised armoured divisions to move north on about August 19. That was the day American intelligence first spotted a movement of troops. The three Republican Guard divisions are equipped with Soviet T72 tanks. The regular divisions which replaced them are equipped with T52s, the sources said.

Iraq has eight Republican Guard divisions under the control of the Iraqi high command. The regular divisions, normally on the Iranian border, come under corps command.

● Medical team: As the clearest sign that Britain expects conflict in the Middle East, a medical team of 25 men and 3 female nursing officers has arrived in Saudi Arabia. The defence ministry said that a 25-strong team from 16 Field Hospital, based at Bulford and from 22 Field Hospital from Aldershot, is now in Dhahran, the base for the squadron of air defence Tornado F3s.

The three women in the party are the first to be sent to Saudi Arabia since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The defence ministry said that medical support units were always sent to places where British servicemen were deployed.

Letters, page 11



Men of war: on the bridge of HMS Jupiter, the frigate in the Gulf, (from left) Radio Operator Robert Hutchfield, 23, from Co Durham, Sub Lient Nick Robinson, 23, from Southsea, and Lient David Riendorp, 27, from Dorchester

WASHINGTON  
Employers discover cost of call-up to industryFrom SUSAN ELLICOTT  
IN WASHINGTON

IMAGINE trying to run an airline and suddenly finding that roughly one in six of your pilots must quit his job without handing in any notice. Or telephoning your hospital in advance of a major operation to find that your trusted surgeon is no longer available.

These are but two possible scenarios that could bring home to Americans the reality of being on the verge of war with Iraq, after a decision by President Bush this week to call up thousands of military reservists.

His announcement, although expected, has left many of the country's more than one million reserve and National Guard members in shock. Not only is the call-up the first for military purposes since the 1968 Tet offensive in Vietnam, but it is also the first time a US president has called upon America's so-called "weekend warriors" since President Nixon ordered them to deliver mail during a postal strike 20 years ago.

Richard Cheney, the defence secretary, has authorised the call-up of 49,703 reservists by October 1. Legally Mr Bush is entitled to activate as many as 200,000 for up to 180 days without approval from Congress. Among the bank clerks, doctors and lawyers who traditionally leave their jobs for occasional weekends of duty and "summer camp" each year, are many who are psychologically ill-prepared for active duty.

Those who could be required to lead a hand include 13 members of Congress who would have to give up their seats if their units are called. Those who previously enjoyed the extra pocket money brought in by their reserve duties are now contemplating significant loss in income if called up to take the place of absent, full-time members of the US armed services. Their employers, too, are mulling their legal obligations to members of staff who may have to leave.

Army reserve offices have reported a deluge of telephone calls from employers and employees wanting to know their rights. Many employers have been surprised to learn they are obliged to hold open a reservist's job for at least four years. They are relieved to hear they do not have to pay the employee during that time.

The call-up underscores how the United States has reorganised its armed services to rely more on part-timers since the abolition of the draft in 1973. Although economists have said the call-up will not damage the US economy in the short term, at least some companies have reason for concern. American Airlines, for instance, has 1,200 pilots who are reserves, representing about 15 per cent of its total.

Military experts have interpreted Mr Bush's decision as sending two possible signals: either he wished to stress to Iraq America's willingness to fight, or he wanted to deliver a message to the Democratic-led Congress that the US cannot weather deep cuts in its defence budget if it needs to activate reserves during an emergency.

Mr Bush's decision to call up the reserves is also likely to be useful to him as a gauge of public support for military operations in the Gulf. So far, as Americans typically rally around their leader in the early stages of a potential conflict, opinion polls show he has their overwhelming support — at least while there are no civilian casualties.

## NUCLEAR POTENTIAL

## Iraq may exploit loophole in non-proliferation pact

By OUR DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

TWELVE miles south of Baghdad there is a large complex containing four separate facilities, all protected by air defence systems. This is Iraq's nuclear research institute at Tuwaitha, near the town of Samarra.

With all the focus on Iraq's ambition to have nuclear weapons and warnings from Western intelligence that the country is between two and five years from achieving that objective, it seems strangely contradictory to hear an official from the International Atomic Energy Agency proclaim that there is no evidence that Iraq is attempting to divert fissile material for military use.

The Vienna-based IAEA, whose 200 inspectors monitor 922 declared nuclear installations around the world, last visited the Iraqi nuclear research plant in March under a "safeguards agreement" signed with Baghdad in 1972. Iraq signed up as a member of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty on October 29, 1969.

The inspectors first checked the accountability records, to see how much nuclear fuel had come in, how much had been used, what spent fuel was in storage and how it related to the records from the previous visit six months ago. Then, by taking samples and weighing fuel elements, they were able to check whether the fissionable material was of a quality suitable only for civilian nuclear research or whether it was of weapons grade.

Finally, the IAEA team examined the special seals placed over video cameras installed by the agency under the treaty to provide remote monitoring of nuclear laboratories. The seals prevent any tampering of equipment.

An IAEA official said: "For the last 12 years, we have been conducting inspections at the site at Tuwaitha, which has two research reactors, a fuel laboratory and storage facilities. We have found no evidence of diversion from their civil programme to military. We have no reason to doubt Iraq's adherence to their treaty obligations."

The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty is being reviewed by its 140 signatories in Geneva. But even if amendments to tighten the treaty are agreed, there are too many loopholes in nuclear weapons acquisition to stop Iraq from making an atomic bomb.

The so-called London Suppliers Club of Western nations with nuclear technology capability is supposed to stop sensitive technology from reaching countries. Only a month ago, in spite of apparent objections by the US commerce department, Washington stopped the shipment to Iraq of a \$15 million (£7.7 million) metallurgical furnace, reported to be for the manufacture of titanium alloy devices. But it could have been used for Iraq's nuclear and ballistic missile programme. Similarly the attempt by Baghdad to acquire nuclear trigger devices was stopped just in time earlier this year.

Yet there are countries such

## Treaty hopes are dashed

HOPES, so high even four months ago for a treaty banning chemical weapons by the end of this year, have been dashed (Alan McGregor writes from Geneva).

As the 40-nation disarmament conference wound up its annual session the most optimistic forecast for agreement was 1992. This is despite the search for agreement being given top priority for the fourth consecutive year.

The draft text is almost complete. All substances capable of being used in chemical weapons have been listed and limits set for those which also have legitimate industrial uses. The rest of the draft covers verification, in particular the concept of "challenge inspection" where clandestine production is suspected. Progress from this point depends on political decisions and the negotiators are asking for an early ministerial conference.

As Brazil and Argentina, neither of them signatories of the treaty, who are close to assembling a nuclear device and only diplomatic pressure from the London Club can stop them passing on their technology to others.

If Iraq succeeded in acquiring all the components for a nuclear bomb, the IAEA would be the only agency capable of checking whether the fuel was being upgraded for military purposes. But it has limited scope for random checks. Inspection at short notice has to be agreed with the government involved.

Moreover, there can be no absolute confidence that Iraq is not carrying out clandestine research in underground facilities which have not been declared to the IAEA.

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If the IAEA discovered a serious treaty breach, its director-general could present the evidence to the Security Council. This power has never been used since the agency was formed in 1957.

Richard Perle, an assistant secretary of defence in the Reagan administration, is in no doubt about what action should be taken. Writing in *The Wall Street Journal*, he recalls the military strike by Israeli jets in 1981 on the Osirak reactor which was suspected of producing plutonium for nuclear weapons.

Mr Perle said: "The destruction of Iraq's nascent nuclear capability, together with its capacity to build chemical weapons, should be the first priority of American policy."

He added: "Even a strictly enforced, comprehensive export control regime would be unlikely to stop Iraq's nuclear and chemical programmes at this late stage in their development. That is why an air attack on the facilities is an essential first step to putting the Iraqi genie back in the bottle."

● Biological capability: Less is known about Iraq's biological weapons capability (Cathy Jaskowski writes). Scientists disagree even over whether Iraq is researching biological agents. There is agreement, however, that if the Iraqis had the ability to use biological weapons their effect against troops in Saudi Arabia would be limited.

Francis Tusa, European editor of *Armed Forces Journal International*, said: "Biological weapons could make forces feel ill for a couple of weeks, but it is highly unlikely that anyone would die."

There are fears, however, that Iraq might be able to use biological weapons effectively against civilians, eliminating guerrilla warfare.

## FRANCE

## Poll shows public backing for tough line

FROM ALAN TILLIER  
IN PARIS

THE French want their country to be firm towards Iraq, according to a poll published yesterday in *Le Figaro*, the conservative daily, and 74 per cent favour unity with the British and Americans. However, 48 per cent oppose an American first strike.

The poll supports President Mitterrand's recent hardening of attitude towards President Saddam after 15 years of Franco-Iraqi friendship and commerce, notably arms. The president has said there was a "logic of war". He is the supreme commander of French forces, in the manner of George Bush, but likes to keep an eye on the polls.

The French, after the Americans, are the most "polled" nation, but often replies are contradictory. The *Figaro* poll shows that public opinion is solidly behind the president and does not agree with the defence minister, Jean-Pierre Chevènement, who wanted to offer President Saddam another chance to come to the negotiating table.

Yesterday M. Chevènement, the defence minister, said he had "accepted" the government's strong line — seven ships, 1,000 troops en route, plus the permanent forces based at Djibouti in the Horn of Africa. These include Foreign Legion units.

Another finding in yesterday's poll was that 51 per cent favoured French military action. President Bush also received a 66 per cent favourable rating.

Yet 51 per cent also approved of concessions to Baghdad to liberate the hostages. The French foreign ministry has denied US press reports of a "deal" on French hostages via the PLO.

## ISRAEL

## Calm returns after advice about gas attack misfires

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

RELATIVE calm returned to a jittery Israel yesterday as officials assured the public that the prospect of an Iraqi gas attack was "very, very low" and that President Saddam was more likely to wage war on Egypt, Saudi Arabia or even Syria than on Israel.

The latest alarm was provoked by Israeli press reports this week, based on intelligence briefings, that war is imminent. Colonel Dov Pelled, head of Civil Defence, appeared on television to advise Israelis how to prepare for a gas attack.

He told viewers to seal off an upper room with masking tape and sponge strips, buy extra batteries for their radios, stock up with two weeks' supply of food and dip a cloth in a solution of baking soda and water to place over their noses in the event of gas attack.

The Israeli Army, clearly angered by the panic this caused, yesterday emphasised that civil defence regulations were general recommendations and not an invitation to hoard foodstuffs or start sealing up rooms. Tomorrow Israeli newspapers are to publish a *Citizens' Guide for Times of Emergency* issued by the Civil Defence Command.

As shops closed yesterday for the sabbath, shopkeepers said there was little sign of panic buying except for a run on tinned goods and baking soda. Consumer groups, taking a relaxed view, said that if the baking soda was never needed as an antidote it could at least be used for "baking honey cakes and alleviating stomach gases".

The pattern in Israel since

the Gulf confrontation began

has been one of alarm interspersed with cautious vigilance. Some Western analysts believe the changes of mood reflect a hidden Israeli desire to be part of the conflict.

Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, this week said Israel was worried about an Iraqi attack but was determined not to be drawn into the Gulf confrontation. "We live in this storm, but have no part of it," he said. "We need strong nerves, patience and a high state of readiness."

But Mr Shamir himself set off alarm bells on Thursday night by saying that "our major task is to prevent war or to pre-empt it. If, heaven forbid, these two fail, and there is no alternative, we have to win quickly and decisively." He later explained he did not mean Israel would launch a pre-emptive strike, as it had against Iraq's nuclear reactor near Baghdad in 1981.

Some Western diplomats none the less say that Israel is dismayed by the delay in American military action and that some Israelis are champing at the bit to join any attack on Iraq. It is widely accepted in Israel that the United States and the West owe thanks to Israel for destroying Iraq's nuclear capability nine years ago, and that the chance must now be taken to neutralise Iraq as a military power for years to come.

Israeli security sources yesterday said the United States was finding it difficult to prepare the American public for the "cold, hard fact" that in any Gulf war thousands of Western hostages and American troops might perish. Large numbers of Iraqi civilians would also die in bombing raids.

"It will be Hiroshima without the atomic bomb," one intelligence source said.

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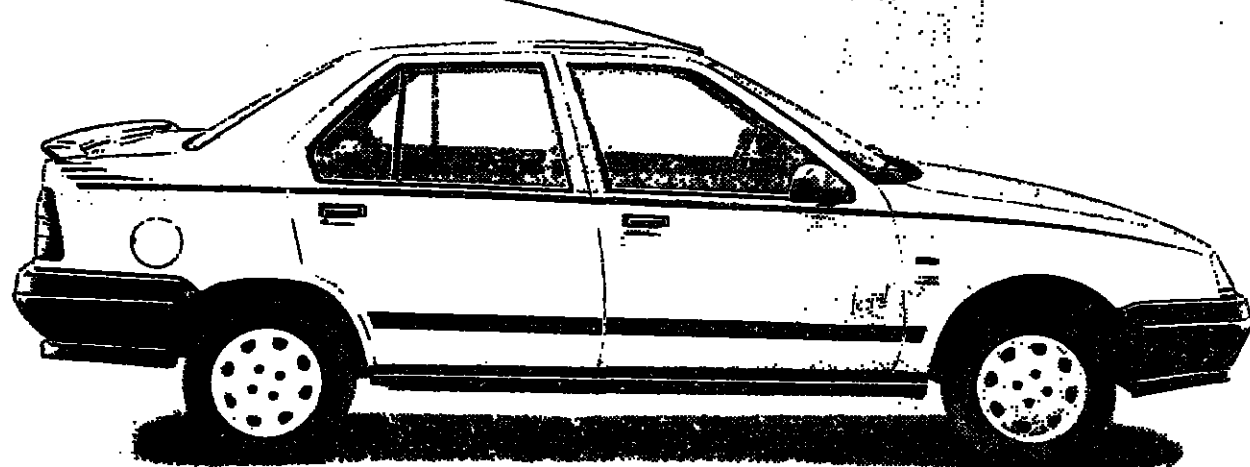
"It will be Hiroshima without the atomic bomb," one intelligence source said.

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		Max. Repayment Period	24 months	24 months	
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		Total Credit Price	£8760	£8910	
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		Minimum Deposit 30%	£1752	£1782	£1817
		Max. Repayment Period	36 months	36 months	36 months
		Monthly Payment	£240.80	£244.92	£249.73
		Finance Charges	£1660.80	£1689.12	£1722.28
		Total Credit Price*	£10445.80	£10624.12	£10832.28
3 Years	7.9% p.a. 15.7% APR				
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# Release was part of long Iranian plan to restore relations

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE release of Brian Keenan, which finally became a reality yesterday after countless false starts, owes more to the machinations of Middle East politics than it does to the campaigns on his behalf by Irish diplomats and his sisters.

When his release looked possible in July, most analysts interpreted it as another carefully planned step in the diplomatic and political campaign by Iran to gradually restore relations with Western powers. An Israeli air raid on Hezbollah targets in southern Lebanon stopped that.

Observers of the Iranian regime believe that the same objective is behind Mr Keenan's release. They argue that those in favour of it in Tehran have had their positions strengthened in the interim by the Western build up, and by President Saddam Hussein's amassing of thousands of hostages.

Another key element is the apparent "transfer" of 15 Shia prisoners held in Kuwait to Baghdad by President Saddam, the freedom of which was a central demand of the Hezbollah movement which holds most of the Western hostages in Beirut.

Freedom for Mr Keenan, a citizen of a neutral country whose abduction in the first place is generally considered to have been in some sense a "mistake", is an intermediate step by pro-Iranian kidnappers, suggesting that further releases of British and American hostages could be possible in the near future.

meanwhile and Charles Haughey, its prime minister, will make the most of what they have long viewed as a potential Irish diplomatic triumph.

In Dublin particular pleasure is derived from the fact that Mr Keenan chose to treat himself as an Irishman and not British and to make this clear to his captors and fellow hostages, in spite of being a Belfast-born Protestant.

Irish diplomatic efforts on his behalf were stepped up in April this year after the release of Frank Reed, an American hostage who had spent time with Mr Keenan in captivity and was able to explain fully for the first time his wish to be represented by Dublin.

A flurry of diplomatic activity followed from Irish ambassadors to Syria based in Saudi Arabia, to the Lebanon-based staff. The charge d'affaires in Tehran attempted to convince those who could influence Mr Keenan's kidnappers that they were mistaken in holding him at all.

The Irish emphasised Dublin's relatively good relations with Tehran particularly during its recent presidency of the EC, and its largely neutral role in the Middle East.

This message was taken to official sources and to so-called "intermediaries", including Shia clerics and militia leaders who liaise between governments and kidnappers inside Beirut.

As one close observer of the Irish approach put it, "In the Lebanon there is not much point in convincing your

representations to the people who happen to sit in or around the president's office. You have to accept that in parts of the Lebanon the only authority is that which derives from the barrel of a gun."

Mr Keenan's case is thought to have been helped by a recent visit to the Iranian capital by a delegation of Irish politicians. They are said to have made "the right balancing noises" to their Iranian hosts, and returned to Dublin sharply critical of Israeli behaviour in the occupied territories and in Southern Lebanon.

They were particularly vociferous over the treatment of 300 Shia prisoners held at Khiam by the Israelis, and publicly called for their release.



Elaine Spence (left) and Brenda Gillham, Brian Keenan's sisters, answering questions after hearing yesterday that he was to be released

## Impulsive and artistic teacher with love of life

BRIAN Keenan, aged 39, is a teacher and community worker who went to Beirut more than four years ago in a spirit of adventure to teach and to do what he could to help ordinary people (Edward Gorman writes).

His family believe that living for so long with Northern Ireland's troubles as part of his everyday life gave Mr Keenan a special understanding and affinity with the Lebanese and contributed to his fateful decision to choose a posting in Beirut over a similar one offered him in Libya.

He had been planning to spend only a year in the Lebanon based at the American University in Beirut where he was appointed lecturer in English, before taking a holiday and travelling to India. He was kidnapped by Moslem gunmen of Islamic Jihad after only four months as he made the short journey on

foot to work one morning, and has been in captivity for a total of 1,574 days.

Brian Keenan is the son of a Belfast telephone engineer. He was brought up in the Protestant East of the city in the closely knit community around the huge Harland & Wolff shipyard and attended Avoniel primary school.

After attending Orangefield secondary school, he went on to the university of Belfast at Coleraine, from where he graduated in 1974 with a degree in English. He spent the following year working as an English tutor in Spain before returning to his old school where he taught English and took rugby.

Between 1977 and 1984 he was employed by Belfast City Council as a community worker and contributed to a number of projects designed to encourage integration between

Roman Catholics and Protestants. He also continued his academic studies, receiving a post graduate certificate in community studies, a masters degree in Anglo Irish literature and a doctorate in English literature.

In East Belfast he was known as something of an eccentric and used to ride around on an old bicycle often in the company of his scruffy dog called Saoirse, which in Gaelic means freedom and which he left with his mother when he flew to Beirut.

His sisters say Brian Keenan is an artistic and impulsive character, at times gregarious and outgoing, at others a very private man who writes his own poetry and enjoyed long walks in the country. During captivity he is said to have dreamed of Ulster and in particular the beautiful Ards peninsula, running along the eastern side of Strangford

Lough, where his ambition is to farm pigs.

He has a strong sense of humour which his sisters hope has held him in good stead during his incarceration. He is also thought to have exercised as much as he has been able and along with the British hostage John McCarthy, with whom he was incarcerated for a time, is said to be in good physical shape.

In spite of Mr Keenan's strongly loyalist working class background, he regards himself principally as an Irishman and believes passionately in a future united Ireland achieved by peaceful means.

While he can claim both British and Irish nationality he chose to travel to the Middle East on an Irish passport, a decision which is now considered to have been crucial in securing his release above his British fellow captives.

## Sisters count the cost of four years of hope and uncertainty

By OUR IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

BRIAN Keenan's sisters know in their hearts, as anyone who has paid even passing attention to their campaign over the past four years will realise, that they have done everything in their power to secure their brother's freedom.

Their efforts have been unrelenting in the face of initial disdain from the Irish and British governments, but they have won respect in Dublin and maintained the momentum right to the end, where many others might have long since given up all hope. That has been all the more impressive from two Belfast housewives, who have had to come to grips with the subtleties of international diplomacy, the political realities of the Middle East in perpetual turmoil and, worst of all, endless speculation about their brother in the media.

Elaine Spence, speaking at her sister's home on a Protestant housing estate in the dormitory town of Dunadon, south of Belfast, reflected on four years lost to her brother and the whole family. She sat on a sofa in front of the window where one pane has been filled by a "Remember Brian Keenan" poster for months and opposite the framed portrait of her brother by the fireplace.

In the hall, Brenda Gillham, her sister, was fielding questions from television news camera crews and attending to the telephone. "I don't think that we have left any stone unturned," Elaine said. "People do say 'you have done

your best'. People have said in the last couple of days 'look, if it's not Brian, you have given the best that your ability can give'."

The telephone calls, interviews, travelling to meet other freed hostages and their families, meetings with the Irish government, special events to keep Brian's plight in the public eye, have all been meticulously recorded. The sisters have compiled scrap books for each year and have stored piles of videos and literature recording Brian's captivity and their campaign.

The most difficult part of it has been coping with the regular flow of rumour and speculation from Beirut and from Fleet Street that has convinced the sisters that Mr Keenan was on the point of release, or death.

"You get very frustrated when there is no news coming through," Elaine said. "Then, of course, you get the times when you read things in the media that can be so damaging and you can't get them confirmed. If it's rumour coming out of Beirut, you don't know if it's the truth or what it is and nobody will tell you anything."

They have learnt to take no chances and to make a conscious effort to remain as calm as possible each time there were fresh signs of a release, half expecting the news to be bad again. The sisters have always said that the family would be happy if any hostage was released, even if it was not Brian, because at least one chapter of agony would be

brought to a close. In the beginning Elaine and Brenda were convinced their brother would be back within a couple of weeks.

They continued to cherish the hope of a quick release past the first year. At a press conference marking the first anniversary of his capture, they told reporters that they were sure there would be no second anniversary.

"The first year we kept thinking next week, next week, they can't hold him any longer," Elaine said. "We never ever dreamt it would be this long. It must have been about 2½ years before we faced up to the fact that it was going to be a long wait."

By then their brother's captivity became an obsession which gripped the sisters ever more tightly as they became increasingly well known. It was soon impossible for them to go shopping in Belfast without people stopping and bringing Brian back to them with words of sympathy.

"Even if we were on a sociable night out, someone would come over to you and bring it back. There are people who don't have the courage without a drink or two to come over. It certainly became an obsession within the home, and it took other people to come along sometimes and say 'sit down, let's look at this in another way'."

Over the years, the sisters have built up a strong relationship with the Irish government. They particularly appreciate the fact that Irish officials have, after an initial coolness, never talked down to them. From their conversations with support groups for British hostages, they believe that they have been treated far better than have their counterparts in Britain by the Foreign Office. Elaine is quite clear that she would not want the Foreign Office to touch her brother's case now, whatever the circumstances.

The sisters have already prepared themselves for the difficulties that may lie ahead. Their conversations with Frank Reed, the freed American hostage, in the United States earlier this year, taught them a lot about the possible psychological and adjustment problems Brian will face on his return. They believe they are going to have to get to know their brother all over again, although they are convinced, from what Mr Reed told them, that he is physically fit and in a reasonably positive frame of mind.

Among those who have suffered most have been Elaine and Brenda's four young children. "I think that we have all lost four years," Elaine said. "Our kids are affected by it. We are educated by it, but at the same time, if it is Brian coming out, we have four years to make up to our family."

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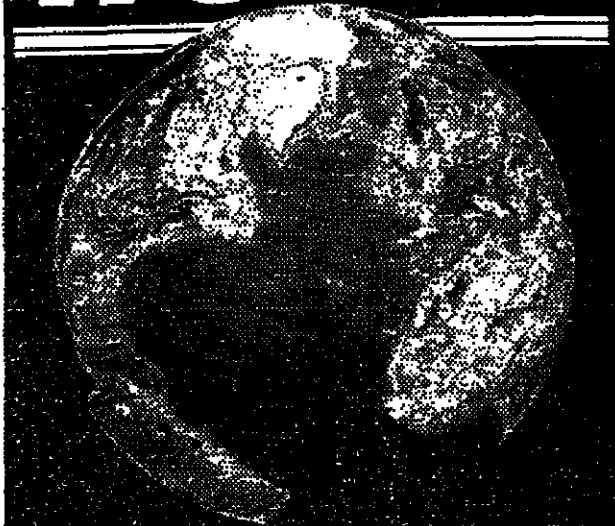


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# Scientists put their case for animal experiments

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

A STRONG declaration defending the use of animals in medical research was issued yesterday by the British Association at its meeting in Swansea. It is an attempt by scientists to regain the initiative from animal rights groups against a background of opinion poll findings that show declining support for animal experiments.

The declaration has the support of the Medical Research Council, the royal colleges, the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and other scientific organisations, as well as ten eminent individuals, six of them Nobel prize winners. Further support is expected now that the declaration has been made public.

It asserts that experiments on animals have made an important contribution to advances in medicine and surgery, and that continued research is essential for the conquest of many unsolved medical problems, including cancer and AIDS, and genetic, developmental, neurological and psychiatric conditions.

Much basic research also needs animal experiments, to provide the foundation for improvements in medical and veterinary knowledge, the statement says. It acknowledges that the scientific community has a duty to explain the aims and methods of its research, to abide strictly by legislation governing animal experiments, and to use animals only when essential and as humanely as possible.

The declaration concludes: "Freedom of opinion and discussion on this subject must be safeguarded, but violent attacks on people and property, hostile campaigns against individual scientists, and the use of distorted, inaccurate or

misleading evidence should be publicly condemned."

Sir Walter Bodmer, director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, said yesterday that it had become more and more important to speak out for the use of animals in medical research. In recent years, the number of animal experiments had fallen, but their relevance had increased, with genetically engineered mice now providing precise models for human diseases.

Colin Blakemore, professor of physiology at Oxford, said that the declaration was a recognition by scientists that keeping their heads down and hoping that the issue would go away was not enough. They had to assert the necessity of using animals in medical research, balanced by the obligation on scientists to look after their animals properly.

Scientists should be prepared to debate the issue, but they objected to defamatory and violent attacks.

The statement refers only to medical research, and not to the use of animals in testing cosmetics, or their treatment in intensive farms. "It's a matter for society to decide whether we want or need more cosmetics," Sir Walter said. Only 0.5 per cent of the animals used in experiments were used for testing cosmetics.

The vast majority of the 3.5 million animal experiments carried out each year were simply manipulations of diet, or a single injection of a drug, Sir Walter said. In 85 per cent of them, the animals used were rodents. Relatively few higher mammals were used. Ten times as many cats and dogs were destroyed by the RSPCA after being abandoned than were used in animal experiments in Britain.

## SCIENCE '90



A visitor to the British Association conference at Swansea, which ended yesterday

## Uphill effort to alter acquired sex-role models

ADOLESCENTS are extraordinarily resistant to messages about sex equality, preferring to believe "folk models" about human behaviour acquired at home and school or in a job or family setting (Nigel Hawkes writes).

Sara Delamont, a sociologist from the University of Wales at Cardiff, told the association that most of the efforts to promote sex equality had ignored the myths about gender strongly held by children, parents and teachers.

"If teachers believe that sex roles are genetically determined (that women, for instance, are naturally more patient with small children) or pupils that any adolescent girl who takes an apprenticeship in a garage is 'boy mad' and any boy interested in fashion design is gay, programmes to change their ideas and practices have to start from those premises," she said.

Experts frequently despair when people do not follow good advice or behaved in self-damaging ways. The reason why they did so was that they had a logically consistent folk model of life, which was quite different from "scientific" or "expert" models. When a folk model con-

flicted with expert argument, the folk model usually won.

Teaching designed to change pupils' views should therefore begin from the target group's lay beliefs, not simply ignore them as most sex-equality initiatives so far had. That, Dr Delamont concluded, would give them a much better chance of changing minds permanently.

John Archer from the department of psychology at Lancashire Polytechnic, reported that his studies among children did show some lessening of sexually stereotyped attitudes towards school subjects over the past decade. He concluded that the generation now in the early years of secondary school took a less gender-linked view of subjects.

● If the government refused to set up a royal commission into education, as recommended this week by Sir Claus Moser, the association will establish its own high-level committee to do the job. Sir Denis Rooke, who took over yesterday from Sir Claus as president, said the association would hold early discussions with other organisations about setting up such a committee.

Letters, page 11

### THE SUNDAY TIMES

#### Inside Saddam's Iraq

"No aspiring dictator could have had a better springboard... Since the 1960s Saddam Hussein used his positions of power in the Ba'ath party in Iraq to strengthen and refine the apparatus of state repression — laying the groundwork for his ruthless regime. Tomorrow, The Sunday Times traces the rise of Saddam and the murderous grip he has on Iraq."

#### New York chic

Three young designers in Manhattan are pushing America to the forefront of fashion with chic clothes in juicy-fruit colours. The Sunday Times Magazine displays their vivid creations

#### Len Deighton

Read the first chapter of the latest Len Deighton novel *Spy Sinker* — the final part of his *Hook, Line and Sinker* trilogy — in the Books section tomorrow

#### Degree service

An exclusive subject-by-subject guide to all the degree and HND vacancies this autumn at 72 colleges and polytechnics is published tomorrow in The Sunday Times

## Restarting the human heart

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

METHODS to keep the human heart going or to restart when it stops are becoming ever more ingenious. Ronald Campbell, professor of cardiology at the Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, and David Cumberland, of the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, described some of them yesterday.

At least 100,000 deaths a year in Britain are due to ventricular fibrillation. That is when chaotic irregularities in the heart stop blood output and death from brain damage follows within four minutes unless there is speedy resuscitation. "If we were able to prevent this rhythm disturbance, it would have a major impact on national health," Professor Campbell said.

Spectacular advances have been made in developing drugs, electrical devices and surgery to prevent it.

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation, in which a surgeon cuts open the chest and squeezes the heart with his hand, was introduced in 1940. Few patients survived the technique, but it led to more sophisticated methods.

Defibrillators that deliver an electrical charge to the chest and jolt the heart back to

life are in common use and the government recently said that all ambulances would carry the equipment. Drugs to prevent or treat ventricular fibrillation have had little success, and in some cases, death rates have been higher in patients given them than in those on placebo therapy.

Beta-blocker drugs, however, have shown remarkable promise in reducing deaths among heart attack survivors. Defibrillator implants have been used for ten years but cost £12,500 and have to be replaced after four years.

Surgical techniques in which abnormal areas of the heart that cause rhythm disturbance are identified from their electrical "signature" and then removed were producing remarkable results. Dr Cumberland described the use of a small balloon, inserted into an artery in the groin and guided towards the heart, which was inflated to split material that had narrowed or blocked the coronary artery. The operation was carried out under local anaesthetic, and if successful patients could go home within two days.

There were drawbacks and narrowings returned in about 25 per cent of cases.

## Action needed to heal rural scars

CLEARER and firmly enforced guidelines will be needed if large areas of the countryside are not to degenerate into a kind of extended suburbia, Dame Jennifer Jenkins, director of the National Trust, warned the association yesterday (Nigel Hawkes writes).

In each of the past five years an average of nearly 14,000 acres of open countryside had been developed, she said. In 1987-88, 161 sites of special scientific interest were either partially lost or suffered such severe long-term damage as to have lost the qualities which made them special in the first place. If damage were to continue at this rate, by the year 2025 more than half those special sites would be lost or blighted.

The 50 per cent expansion of the road-building programme recently announced by the government posed an additional threat, she said. The plans were equivalent to building a motorway 257 lanes wide from London to the Scottish border, and the extra traffic generated would need an area the size of Berkshire

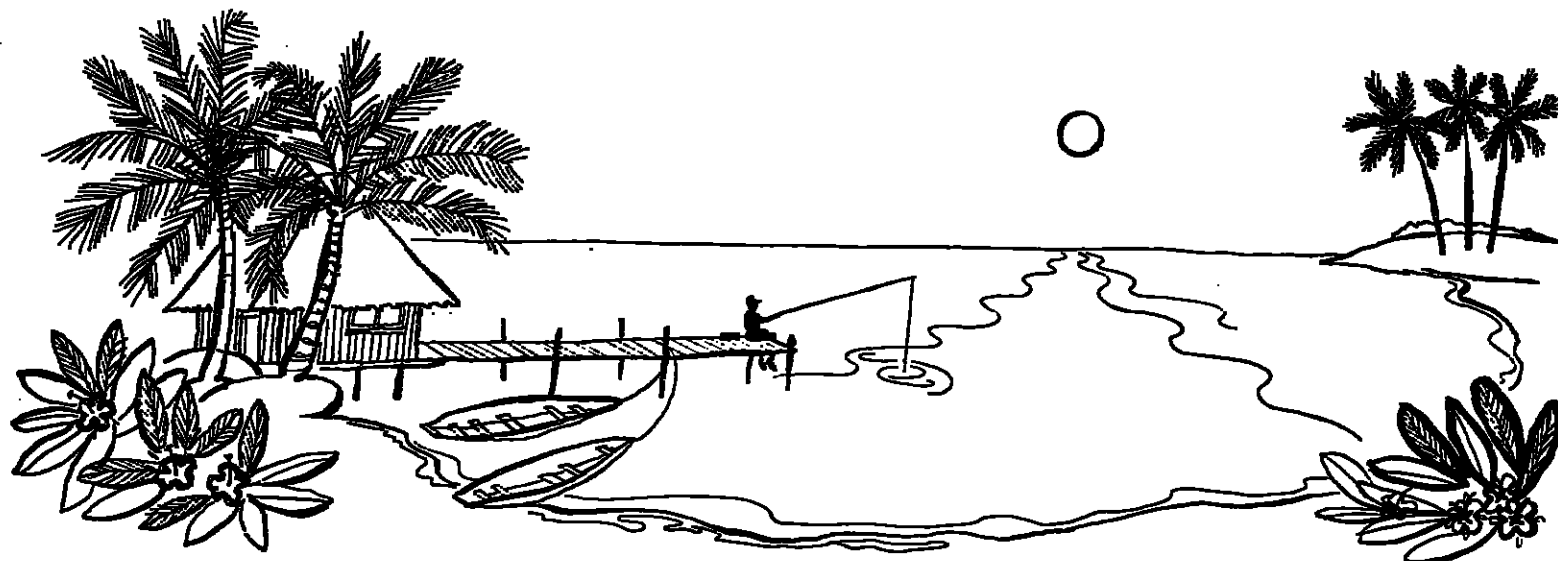
for parking. She called for a return to more extensive methods of agricultural production, together with the planting of broad-leaved forests, to protect the character of the countryside. The planning system needed to be "firm and predictable" and give greater weight to environmental considerations.

"In the last decade the trend has been in the opposite direction. Planning authorities' powers have been restricted and their decisions have become more likely to be overturned on appeal." In the decade beginning 1979 planning appeals in England had more than doubled and those allowed on appeal had more than trebled. The results were apparent even in the national parks and other areas designated for special protection.

With new policies, the countryside would continue to shrink in size and be degraded in quality. It was our duty to future generations to do what we could to heal the scars and conserve the countryside, she added.

Housing dilemma, page 10

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# Getaway for less at Lunn Poly







# Job quotas scheme in India stirs caste hatred

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

POLICE bombarded high-caste students here with tear gas yesterday when they attempted to surround Parliament House to protest against government job reservations for "backward classes". Caste clashes are being reported across half a dozen states.

There was uproar in the Lok Sabha (lower house) as the opposition Congress (I) party accused the government of creating "explosive" caste divisions. Government ministers said defiantly that they were determined to press ahead to fight the "stigma of birth" suffered by the backward classes.

The government intends to implement job quotas along the lines recommended by the Mandal Commission on Backward Classes nearly a decade ago. These aimed to ease lower-caste Indians out of poverty by guaranteeing them government jobs. Before the findings were shelved bloody riots against the low castes broke out in several parts of

the country. The revival of the proposals has provoked big demonstrations in Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Orissa, Bihar and other states, principally involving students worried that they will not get a government job because of job reservation.

Government jobs are greatly prized in India because they offer security, pensions and free housing in the higher grades.

In the protest outside parliament, thousands of students converged on the main gate and disrupted traffic for miles around. Police fired tear gas shells when the students charged a security cordon, creating a stampede in which several young people were injured. Youths smashed the windcreens of parked cars and hurled stones at police. Many had travelled to Delhi in hijacked buses. It was the second day of violent protest.

As protests increased across the country the government announced in parliament that it was determined to implement the Mandal Commission recommendations in full. The report identified 50 castes as backward, and recommended that 27 per cent of government jobs should be set aside for them in direct proportion to their numbers in the population. The proposal was ignored by the Congress (I) party, which lost last November's election.

Harijans (Untouchables) and tribal Indians, also known as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, are already entitled to an allocation of 22 per cent of government jobs. In practice they occupy a much smaller number of positions, mainly because of bureaucratic resistance. In theory the new proposals will mean that practically half the hundreds of thousands of government posts throughout India will be set aside for Harijans and the backward classes.

B. P. Mandal, the author of the report, who died two years ago, was from a lower caste. Opponents of his recommendations said that, far from advancing the low castes, his report would emphasise caste divisions and create a violent backlash against the backward classes. It was argued that ill-educated people from lower castes would lower the standards of the bureaucracy.

Vishwanath Pratap Singh, the prime minister, who is from the high-caste Rajputs, told parliament that job quotas would give the backward classes an opportunity to improve their economic standards. His move appears designed to capture the electoral support of Harijans and the low castes.

People from the high castes, who account for a quarter of the population, dominate government, business and the professions. The increasingly violent conflict over job quotas demonstrates the intensity of caste-based politics.

● AMRITSAR: Paramilitary troops and police have raided the Golden Temple after reports that wanted militants were hiding in the Sikhs' holiest shrine, officials said yesterday.

Some 100 Central Reserve Police Force troops and Punjab state police stormed a guest house inside the complex on Thursday evening to arrest the militants, but found no unauthorised persons hiding inside, the Amritsar city police chief, Sanjiv Gupta, announced. (AFP)



A student throwing a stone at police in Delhi who fired tear gas during protests over job quotas for lower castes

# Liberian rebel attack fails to take airfield

From REUTER IN MONROVIA

REBELS loyal to Charles Taylor, the Liberian guerrilla leader, staged a big assault on an airfield near Monrovia, the capital, yesterday as ships carrying West African peacekeeping troops arrived off the city's port. But witnesses said the rebels, many of them poorly trained, appeared unable to breach the solid army defences.

Reporters saw about a hundred fighters mass at the city's eastern battlefront to attack the government-held Spriggs Payne airfield, about two and a half miles from President Doe's heavily fortified mansion. In a war confined largely to small arms, the rebels deployed an unusual amount of artillery in the attack.

They fired two 80mm mortars and a few rounds from a four-barrel anti-aircraft gun before advancing on foot towards the airfield. Heavy gunfire crackled for at least two hours, interspersed with the boom of government mortars aimed at rebel lines.

A photographer who accompanied the rebels into battle said President Doe's troops were solidly entrenched, blocking the rebels well before they reached the airfield. The 3,000-strong West African peacekeeping force, assembled by the Economic Community of West African States, consists of troops from Sierra Leone, Guinea, Nigeria, The Gambia and Ghana. It has been mandated to enforce a ceasefire and create conditions for setting up an interim government to hold elections within 12 months.

At the moment a week-old ceasefire is in place between President Doe and Prince Johnson, the breakaway rebel leader, whose men hold the port area. Mr Taylor, leader of the mainstream National Patriotic Front of Liberia, has refused to accept a truce and has said he will also fight the peacekeeping force, accusing it of aiming to keep President Doe in power.

Many fighters at the eastern front appeared to have no orders about what to do if they encountered soldiers of the peacekeeping force. Some said they would attack foreign troops on sight, but others said that they would fire only if provoked.

Morale was mixed. Mr Taylor's rebels often seem reluctant to fight, and diplomatic sources say one commander recently sent a radio message to a Western embassy saying he wanted to surrender.

# Bhutto leaders in hiding

From ZAHID HUSSAIN IN KARACHI

MANY leaders of Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's party have gone underground for fear of a crackdown on the party, reports here suggest. Large contingents of police have also been posted around Blawal House, Miss Bhutto's residence in Karachi.

The reports come after the military-backed caretaker government directly implicated the party in the sniper fire in Karachi on Wednesday which killed 31 people and wounded 50. Jam Sadiq Ali, the chief minister of Sindh province, disclosed that 28 party activists were among the 32 people arrested by the security forces.

Unidentified gunmen indiscriminately fired from cars at people celebrating the return from London after a kidney operation of Altaf Hussain, the chief of the Mohajir Qumi movement. The movement, which controls Karachi politically, was the main opposition force against the deposed government of Miss Bhutto.

Aftab Shaban Mirani, the deposed chief minister of Sindh province and a prominent Pakistan People's party leader, has strongly condemned the arrest of party activists on murder charges and accused the caretaker government of lying in implicating the party. "The regime on the one hand trying to malign the PPP and on the other the actual terrorists are not being arrested."

Zahid Sarfraz, the home minister in the caretaker government, has denied, however, that action against party activists was taken after the administration failed to implicate Miss Bhutto in corruption charges. Mr Sarfraz said the government had received information about the party's plan to create law-and-order problems.

Some reports suggest that the government may arrest some Pakistan People's party leaders and put them on trial on charges of terrorist activities.



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# Fires rage in Tuscany

Rome — Thousands of tourists, including Britons, have fled camp sites and holiday villages as fires swept through mainland Tuscany and the islands of Elba and Giglio (Paul Bompard writes). Fires on the two islands have been almost brought under control but others continued to rage between Pisa and Lucca. Woodlands and vineyards have been destroyed.

Italian authorities said that many of the fires were started on purpose and described it as an ecological disaster.

# Pinochet's day

Santiago — General Pinochet, Chile's former military ruler who handed over power to an elected government in March, celebrated 17 years as army commander-in-chief with an impressive show of support from his troops. (Reuters)

# Engine plunges

Athens — Part of an engine fell off an Olympic Airways jet and crashed into an Athens suburb without causing any casualties. The incident happened as the Boeing 747 took off for Australia with 375 people on board. (Reuters)

# Trial ends

Sibiu — The trial of Nicu, son of Nicolae Ceausescu, the late Romanian dictator, on genocide charges ended yesterday. The verdict will be given on September 21. Legal objections prevented him from being freed for medical treatment. (Reuters)

# 'Deadly' error

Paris — Larousse, the world's leading publisher of French dictionaries, has recalled 180,000 volumes of this year's four edition after a miscaptioned photograph labelled a deadly mushroom "harmless" and a harmless mushroom "deadly". (Reuters)

# Angry jurors

Dallas — Jurors who recommended a life sentence for Timothy Kehoe, aged 30, convicted of rape expressed outrage over a videotape the rapist made of the attack. "I wanted to beat him to death," said a juror. (AP)

# Airport refuge

Paris — Forty-four Albanians are stranded at the international airport here without entry visas. A total of 543 Albanians have arrived here amid a rush of people seeking refuge in foreign embassies in Tirana. (AFP)



# Today's just Samaritan

Clifford Longley

The parable of the Good Samaritan has been much abused in political debate. Mrs Thatcher has used it to make the point that, to be charitable, the Samaritan first had to have money in his pocket. On the other hand, the parable is often cited as the moral basis of the welfare state. It is a pity that one of the cleverest stories in the New Testament has lost most of its meaning by being reduced to a platitude about helping the less fortunate.

Whether there is such a thing as social justice is increasingly controversial in political debate in Britain and America. The failure to make society fairer is said on the left to be the principal moral defect of free-market capitalism, while on the right, socialism is attacked as the vain pursuit of equality in the name of social justice. Dr David G. Green, director of the health and welfare unit of the Institute of Economic Affairs, has just published a pamphlet, *Equalizing People*, which argues the second view. He advocates "personal moral responsibility" and "benevolence, but voluntarily, and opposes use of the state as an instrument for economic levelling, which in his opinion is impossible.

Justice, at its simplest, is giving someone what they are entitled to. Among Jews, long before Christ, the word came to refer specifically to alms-giving, which implies not only that the giver of alms had a duty to give, but that the receiver of alms had a proper claim on the giver. This understanding was assimilated by Christian thought, and later enriched by Greek philosophical notions of justice, especially those of Aristotle.

The audience to which Christ preached was, like him, Jewish. Steeped in the teachings of the prophets, they did not need to be told that a Jew had a personal obligation to help a fellow Jew. Had one of the two Jewish passers-by on the other-side stopped to help the man fallen among thieves, the story would only have made a point they already accepted. Had the victim not been Jewish, the story would have reminded them that their charity could extend even to helping Gentiles.

In modern popular culture, a Good Samaritan is someone who helps a stranger in need - an upright citizen who helps a drunk across the road, for instance - but in the original parable, it is the drunk, as it were, who helps the upright citizen. For Samaritans were outcasts not bound by the teachings of the prophets, or so the Jews believed. Samaritans was no place for a self-respecting person at all. A welfare state founded on the Good Samaritan parable would be manned by heroin addicts with Aids, for the benefit of the respectable middle classes.

Christ had swapped texts with a Jewish lawyer, ending with the words of Leviticus: "Love your neighbour as yourself". The par-

able came in answer to the next trick question: "And who is my neighbour?", that is, to whom was a pious Jew bound to give alms? Christ never directly answered. The question was about the limits of social justice in Jewish teaching, and he replied that there should be no limits.

For the Samaritan was not a "neighbour" because he received benevolence (as an object of pity), but because he was a giver (who was moved by pity). He proved himself the victim's neighbour. It was a trick answer, but it established that in Judaeo-Christian thought there can be no narrowing of the circle of those to whom the duty of alms-giving applies, and who therefore have a right to receive alms. (The Good Samaritan is not a specifically Christian tale, for it is clear Christ's wholly Jewish audience recognised that he was expounding Jewish scripture.) The story has other layers of meaning too, but its political force is relevant to Dr Green's blithe dismissal of social justice.

The claim of the new right is that the economic forces of the free market are natural and ineluctable. One may speak of their "victims" only as one might speak of the victims of an earthquake, and it would be absurd to speak of an earthquake as unjust. Such victims, therefore, have no right to claim remedy for their condition. They must wait upon charity. The more fortunate - who escaped the earthquake or benefited from the free market - may perfectly well help them if they wish, but this is voluntary.

The right opposes any coercion by the state in the name of social justice, for instance in the redistribution of wealth. And the essence of this dismissal is not that social justice is a disguised excuse for promoting equality (which is not part of Judaeo-Christian thought), but that the "victims" of capitalism are "owed" nothing. Whatever they may receive is purely *ex gratia*. The language of justice, on the other hand, speaks of paying a debt, receiving what is due. Ineluctably, according to the concept of social justice, capitalism creates its own creditors, the poor.

Was the man who fell among thieves entitled to demand the help of the Good Samaritan? He was certainly entitled to the help of the priest and Levite, for they were bound by the Jewish law and prophets. The parable makes social justice a universal obligation, part of the natural law by which all are bound.

But obedience to natural law cannot be reduced to the status of a voluntary act, even if the law of the land does not compel it. Nor can obligations to pay what is due ever be *ex gratia*. So the question therefore is not about social justice but simply to what extent the state is the appropriate agent of its enforcement. But then if enforcement of justice is not the state's business, what is?

...and moreover

## MATTHEW PARRIS

Oh Peru, Peru! What a mess... Each time I come to Lima I see a nation on the brink of collapse. Yet each time Peru seems to stagger on, reeling under the latest economic blow, IMF ultimatum, or terrorist bomb, to yet another brink. This one, surely, is the last.

"Only a few of us bother working," said the airport taxi driver, "now they have raised the price of petrol."

"How much?" I asked boredly, thinking this the usual taximan's rant.

"Thirty times," said the taxi driver.

"Thirty times what?"

"Thirty times what it was last week."

He shot across a red light and the path of a bus called Heart of Jesus which took routine avoiding action. Heart of Jesus was so tightly packed that the head of an Indian boy was jammed sideways against a window, immobilising him. The whites of his eyes were showing and he appeared to be dead, but the glass against which his mouth pressed was steamed up, so maybe he was breathing. The bus lacked most of the bodywork around its wheel arches, and both its headlights.

Lima is full of tanks, jeeps, watercannon, and soldiers. Between the airport and the Church of San Francisco (beneath which lie catacombs containing the bones of the first two centuries of Lima's Spanish dead, dismembered and stacked by bone classification), we saw enough ammunition to sustain a small war.

"For security," explained our driver. "There have been bombs, hidden by Shining Path terrorists. Cars explode. Also donkeys, chickens, and children, with dynamite inside. Also there may be demonstrations and a general strike tomorrow."

"Against?"

"Against inflation. Against *el choque* [the shock]. The president promised before the election that the economic crisis could be solved without a *choque*. Now it comes. People are angry. They may throw stones. Against inflation."

It is true that the new president, the almost unknown Señor Fujimori, had aroused

impossible expectations. Mrs Thatcher, the First Lady of Choque, would say he has only himself to blame.

By the Palace of the Inquisition, bewildered soldiers fingered self-loading rifles and elderly teargas canisters as a crowd of women demonstrated. "Against prices," said the taxi driver. "The price of noodles has risen by 700 per cent."

Ten dollars buys you a packet of noodles in Peruvian units, of which yesterday there were 310,000 to the dollar. Thomas de la Rue is sending them in by the jumbo-load. Rampant inflation, the loss of economic sovereignty... the whole thing is a sort of Thatcher nightmare.

I peer out of the taxi window. Setting the seal on the nightmare, an old man - presumably mad - is walking purposefully down the carriageway, dodging rush-hour traffic. He is naked. Peruvians stare out of buses at him in mild alarm.

Lima is a purgatory. It sweats and shivers for half the year under a motionless grey bank of Pacific mist: a cracked colonial ruin in flaking baroque and blistered wood, surrounded by one of the largest shanty towns in the southern hemisphere: a sea of urine-soaked corrugated iron. To north and south is desert. Meanwhile the Pacific pounds the shore at the feet of crumbling cliffs behind which the city squats, tipping its refuse into the sea. This is a magnificently wrecked environment.

Beneath these cliffs we spent our first evening. Here, on a pier striding into the breakers, is the restaurant Rosa Nautica. Under glass pavilions, the Peruvian super-rich dine in tropical art-deco splendour, amid palms, fans and tinkling pianos.

The gates of the pier were guarded by soldiers with automatic weapons. For 30 yards along the pier to the restaurant door, an Indian with a rickshaw offered my parents a ride. And there was a monkey in a frock. For a fee, the monkey would select a paper, telling your fortune, from her stack.

The soldier eyed the rickshaw man: the rickshaw man eyed the dimers: smiled at the monkey. The monkey eyed the soldier. On Peru, Peru!

After Saddam's TV performance, John Grigg reflects on other dictators' dealings with children

# Never take humbug from strangers

Saddam Hussein's TV appearance with his British "guests", particularly his gauche attempts to ingratiate himself with the six-year-old Stewart, have been rightly denounced as nauseating propaganda. In one sense, of course, such behaviour is not confined to dictators. Democratic politicians are even more prone to bogus displays of cosiness and human warmth, if only because they depend, as dictators do not, upon public opinion. All the same, when a man of Saddam's basality puts on a fatherly act, the effect is peculiarly horrible.

Character and motive are all-important. When a democratic politician puts his arm round a small boy and asks if he is enjoying his food and games, the politician's object is merely to win votes. He has no intention of using the boy and his parents as sacrificial victims in a war he has provoked, or as a means of blackmailing his opponents.

Tyrants have never been good at pretending to be nice. Some, to their credit, have not even made the attempt. Shakespeare's Rich-

ard III is not depicted in a coddly scene with the Princes in the Tower. Stalin was not photographed amid family groups of Kolaks.

Yet the desire to seem possessed of ordinary human emotions has been apparent in many dictators, mainly for reasons of political self-interest, but in some cases, perhaps, partly to reassure themselves. The psychology of tyranny, like that of crime, is obscure, but the relentless cruelty must be a strain, and even the most dedicated tyrant may at times feel the need for a little relief. "When the enterprising burglar's not a-burgling..."

Napoleon did not waste much time playing the part of father of his people (in any case the French were not really his people; he was a Corsican bandit who used them for his own ends), but he was, in his way, a family man, genuinely fond of his son. Other children he largely ignored, but he treated his soldiers as children and spoke to them with a rough bonhomie, no doubt calculated for its effect on their morale. He addressed them

as "tu", and with his phenomenal memory was able to astonish them by remembering their names. But he did not really care what happened to them (apart from a few old military friends, such as Duroc and Lannes, whose deaths caused him some distress).

Among 20th-century dictators, none has had Napoleon's wide-ranging genius. The Third World has produced a rich crop of monstrous tyrants who have butchered men, women and children indiscriminately, but none has followed Herod in making children a particular target, and none until Saddam has used individual children as psychological weapons in an international struggle.

Even Hitler drew the line at such conduct, and he is also perhaps the strangest example of the pathologically abnormal trying at times to be normal. In *Inside the Third Reich*, Hitler's armaments minister, Albert Speer, wrote: "I have so often wondered whether Hitler felt anything like affection for children. He certainly made an effort when he met them, whether they were the children of acquaint-

ances or unknown to him. He even tried to deal with them in a paternally friendly fashion, but never managed to be very convincing about it. He never found the proper easy manner of treating them; after a few benign words he would soon turn to others."

Despite the advantage over Hitler of having children of his own, Saddam is obviously no better at winning youngsters round. Stewart showed a resolute unwillingness to respond in the way the dictator wished. Perhaps he was confused by the foreign language. At all events, the contrived scene backfired, because when Saddam said that the boy would be judged as a hero for his contribution to peace, many must have reflected that he would indeed be judged a hero, though for a quite different reason: resisting Saddam's hypocritical blandishments.

Modern dictators have been all too well aware of the importance of youth in the mass. Following the Jesuit principle of catching a child's mind in its earliest years, the Bolsheviks established the

indoctrination of children as a major instrument of policy. Mussolini dragged children from the age of four into his Fascist youth organisations, supplying them with toy machineguns and black shirts. And Hitler followed this odious model with his Hitler Youth.

Though Mussolini posed as an ideal family man, the indoctrination of children is, of course, totally incompatible with family life. In the regimes which practise such indoctrination, children are encouraged to put the interests of the state above all natural loyalties, even to the extent of denouncing their parents to the authorities.

The present Iraqi regime is organised on these lines. Moreover, Saddam has kidnapped hundreds of Kurdish children and even returned the eyeless bodies of some of them to their parents as a means of forcing the parents of the others to give themselves up. Though it may not be wise for western politicians to be too eloquently disgusted by his show of solicitude for the young, the disgust is justified.

# How are we going to keep them down in the village?

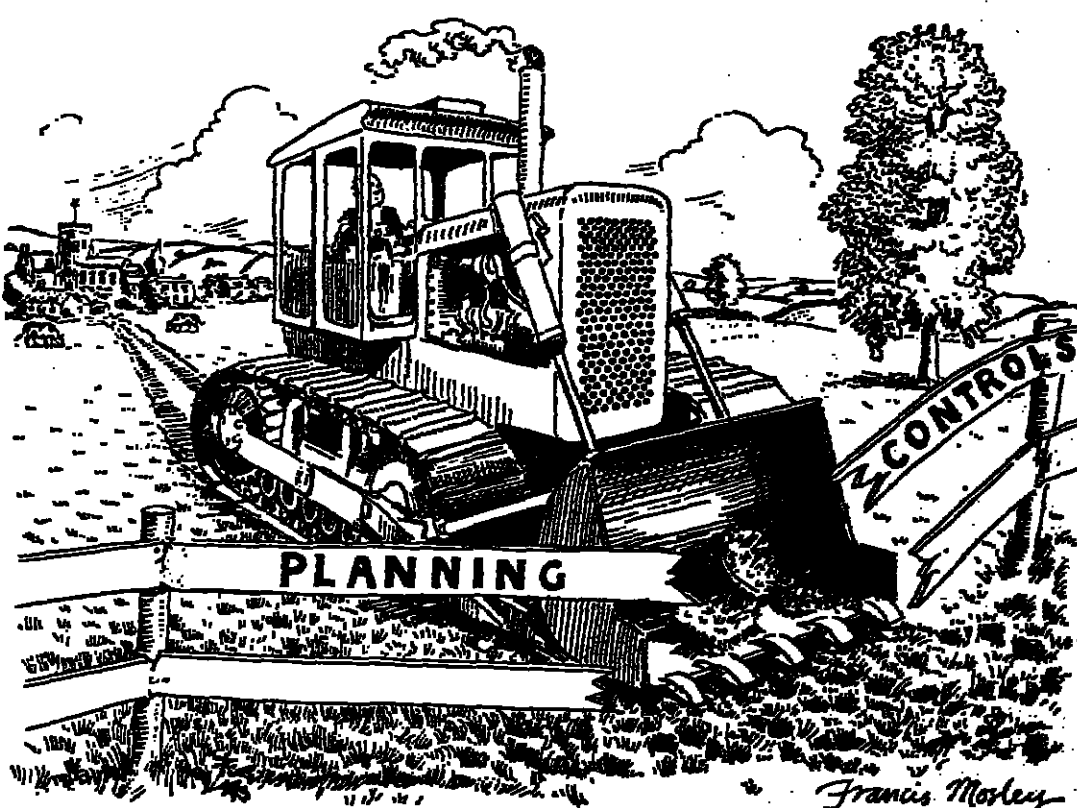
In a housing market awash with misery, the plight of young couples forced by rising rural house prices to move from village to town may not seem too appalling. However, decent country people displaced from the communities of their birth by gentrifying telecommuters provoke sympathy which is denied to the urban homeless. More importantly, they pack a political punch. Rural voters want to preserve their communities from the social change that is sweeping the countryside. So local and central government have been under growing pressure to ensure the provision of cheap rural housing for local people.

Early last year Nicholas Ridley, then environment secretary, launched an initiative designed to provide "affordable" rural homes. At the time it was widely welcomed, but as it takes shape on the ground, a disturbing problem is emerging. The proposals threaten to deal a savage and unexpected blow to the fragile character of our countryside.

To protect the landscape, planners have insisted until now that new building in rural areas must generally be kept within villages. Because of this, the supply of country homes has not kept pace with booming demand, and in the resulting scramble the rural poor have been beaten to both new and existing houses by wealthier outsiders. Mr Ridley chose not to tamper with the sanctity of this market; instead, he decided to squeeze the environment.

He told local councils that land outside existing villages on which development would otherwise be forbidden could now be released for housing - so long as it was used only to provide cheap homes for local people. It sounded to many a neat solution. Since plots subject to this restriction would sell for less than ordinary building land, low-cost housing could be built on them at a profit. A few simple and unobtrusive estates would appear on the edge of villages. These would quickly soak up all those impecunious rural couples, and that would be that.

District councils, pleased to have some way of responding to local pressure, began to draw up their schemes. But as these plans started to appear they were exposing a grave flaw in the initiative. The central problem is that



## Marion Shoard believes 'affordable' housing schemes are a nonsense and would destroy the countryside

"local" people are not a readily identifiable and finite group, yet they are being offered something that many people want: the right to a cheap country home. How are councils to distinguish those to whom their schemes are aimed from the many others scenting a good thing who may try to claim local status? How are scheme participants, genuinely local or otherwise, to be prevented from selling on the open market to outsiders, so converting such properties into ordinary real estate?

If satisfactory answers to these questions are not found, then demand for affordable local housing schemes will not die away as existing needs are met. Rural councils will face an irresistible tide of claimants, and as the new low-cost homes spring up, their occupants' offspring and relatives will swell the ranks of those entitled to more of the same. The schemes will become a giant loophole through which the na-

tion's vast, pent-up demand for homes in the country can be expected to burst. The suburbanisation of our countryside, which only our planning system has kept at bay, will be upon us.

How, then, are councils tackling their difficult task? The new arrangements do not allow them to attach occupancy conditions to their planning permissions, so they have had to find other means of ensuring that scheme homes go only to local people. They do not seem to have cracked the problem. On the contrary, many councils seem wary of incurring unpopularity by appearing unduly restrictive. Some are extending eligibility not only to people living in their areas, but to their dependants, to people who used to live in the area but have moved away, those who work in the area, and even people who have merely established "kinship ties" with the area.

An awful lot of people can claim a country cousin. Those

who cannot will find that the wide categories of legitimate entitlement provide them with plenty of chances to cheat. If an applicant ends up using his new-price house as a weekend cottage or a holiday let, who will be able to stop him?

An existing loophole allows dwellings for farm-workers to escape the ban on building in the open countryside. Many of the "labourers' cottages" which are built somehow end up as well-appointed homes occupied by wealthy commuters. The new schemes will allow scope for much greater abuse.

To prevent participants in the low-cost schemes from selling up at the market price, some may be required to sign covenants requiring them to sell only at prices set by the district valuer to people on a list drawn up by the council. There are, however, doubts about how enforceable such covenants will prove in the long term. Some councils seem likely to depend

merely on the lettings policies of housing associations to enforce occupancy provisions.

As the dangers of affordable housing schemes become clear, there are already calls for a change of tack. In a report published this week, the Council for the Protection of Rural England argues that instead of eroding the countryside to create affordable housing, we should use some of the land already earmarked for development. In the 1980s, homes were built on hundreds of thousands of plots within villages. In future, says the CPRE, planners should be able to restrict permission for building on such plots to low-price housing.

Such an approach would certainly save the countryside, but it would be unlikely to solve the problems of the rural poor. As the homes created would be even more of a bargain, abuse would be that much greater, and even more of them would end up in the wrong hands.

What we seem to be discovering is that in a free society, control of occupancy cannot easily be separated from ownership. The unwelcome corollary is that the only effective way of reserving housing for the rural poor would be to retain it in public hands. This of course is just what happened before the Thatcher housing revolution. The loss of 200,000 rural council houses because of the "right to buy" is one of the causes of the problem that affordable housing schemes are supposed to solve.

If the government really wants to exempt rural home-seekers from the iron laws of the market, it ought to scrap its affordable housing proposals and bring back council housing. If it finds this unpalatable, it has only one honourable alternative. It should explain to the rural poor that it believes in using the price mechanism to allocate desirable commodities, of which homes in the country have become an excellent example. What the government must not be allowed to do is to continue trying to evade this choice at the expense of the character of our countryside.

Marion Shoard, author of *This Land is Our Land* (Grafton, £5.95), is a lecturer in countryside planning at Reading University.

## War clouds' silver lining

One person hoping that some good may come of Saddam Hussein's aggression is Salman Rushdie, who has had to endure a subterranean lifestyle since the *fatwa* or sentence of death imposed by the late Ayatollah Khomeini 18 months ago. He hopes that as Iraq's belligerence nudges Iran towards rapprochement with the West, his plight will ease.

"He is cautiously optimistic," says Melvyn Bragg, who has just interviewed Rushdie in his hideaway "somewhere in England" for LWT's *South Bank Show*. "Although we didn't refer to the crisis in the Gulf on camera, we did talk about it privately. He has been following events closely on television and is just waiting and hoping. Nor did we focus on the *Satanic Verses* affair. I was very impressed with his resilience and spirit. He is holding up very well. It's a remarkable example of grace under pressure."

To meet Rushdie, Bragg and his crew of seven had to resort to covert tactics which in other circumstances would border on the comic. None of the technicians came to where they were going or who they were about to meet. Police were present throughout.

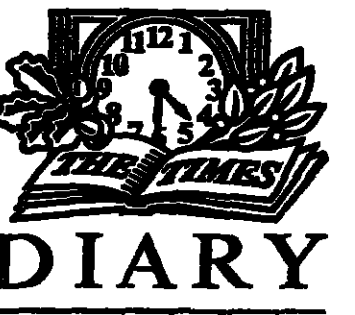
The programme will go out on September 30, to coincide with the publication of Rushdie's new novel, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*. Rushdie hopes to record extracts from the book for Radio 4 and take part in a telephone discussion on *Kaleidoscope*. The BBC refuses to comment. "Sadly I don't think there is any

immediate chance of him resuming a normal life," says Bragg. "What was very clear from the day I spent with him is that above all he desperately misses his son Zafar, by his first wife." Rushdie has dedicated his new novel to the 10-year-old boy whom, for security reasons, he has not seen since the madness began.



## Marxist again

That well-known watering hole of London media folk, the Groucho Club, plans to export its unique charm overseas - behind what used to be called the Iron Curtain. Liam Carson, the general manager, says: "Originally we thought of setting up in New York or Paris but then decided to be more daring. We settled in Prague, the most literary of all East European capitals." If the plan comes off, the Groucho hopes that the proud owner of membership card number one will be Czechoslovakia's best-known living writer, President Vaclav Havel.



## Getting around

While concern in the Gulf crisis centres on the plight of western captives, spare a thought for Anton Mac Unfairidh, Ireland's ambassador to Iraq. Like Britain's envoy, Harold Walker, he was at home on holiday when Saddam Hussein's tanks rolled into Kuwait. He has since returned to Baghdad to look after the interests of the 300 Irish nationals trapped in Iraq and 70 in Kuwait. Life must indeed be very busy for him just now. But then it always is. In addition to Iraq, Mac Unfairidh is also Irish ambassador to Cyprus, Jordan, Kuwait and Lebanon.

member of the society, has compiled a list of basic spelling errors from this year's exam papers which he marked. "Students were warned a year ago of the importance of correct spelling," he says. "My list, though exhaustive, is far from exhaustive." Among the hundred or so mistakes were rape for ripe, bees for bees, witch for which and snail for snail.

The society's vice-chairman, Peter Bassett, says: "The GCSE results are being trumpeted as marvellous, yet pupils cannot spell properly even in English papers. The misspelling of chemical and technical terms is extremely worrying, and potentially dangerous." Like the late chemistry student who thought that the well-known explosive "night-time moisturiser" was a bedtime skin

● *Inmates of Holloway women's prison in London were delighted when American writer Seth Morgan turned up to read an extract from his new novel, Homeboy. They might not have been quite so pleased had they known they were second choice. Morgan, a former prisoner and boyfriend of the late singer Janis Joplin, originally wanted to perform at Wormwood Scrubs, but according to a spokesman for Chato & Windus, his publisher: "When we contacted the prison we were told it was shut for a couple of weeks... Isn't a prison always shut?"*

## Spelling bee

While John MacGregor, the education secretary, puts with pleasure at last week's unexpectedly good A-level results, the Queen's English Society has come up with fresh evidence to support Sir Claus Moser's contention that Britain is one of the worst educated of all advanced societies.

Dr Bernard Lamb, reader in genetics at Imperial College and a

● *His perfection marred only by his modesty, Clive Jenkins, the former empire builder of the trade union movement, declares on the back cover of his forthcoming memoirs: "I am not arrogant... but I have been influenced by the leader who declared 'I have only made one mistake'. Briefly, 20 years ago, I thought I was wrong on an important issue. I was wrong about my being wrong."*

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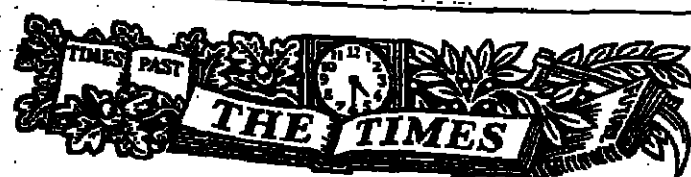
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in strange

to keep village?

W



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## IRAQ'S OTHER VICTIMS

Jordan's decision yesterday to reopen its border with Iraq to the thousands of refugees waiting to cross is a courageous humanitarian act which should be rewarded with prompt, and adequate, support in cash and kind. There is cause for shame that an international relief effort only began to get under way after the government had been compelled, to avert complete chaos, to attempt to seal the frontier last Wednesday. Since August 2, when Iraq invaded Kuwait, Jordan has played host to nearly 200,000 people, most of them arriving with next to nothing. Had such an influx of refugees been caused by drought or earthquake, the country would almost instantly have been declared a disaster zone.

Destitute as they may be, these victims of Iraqi aggression are comparatively lucky. The West can do nothing, beyond the firmest warnings of the consequences should harm come to them, for its own citizens held captive in Iraq and Kuwait, but at least it can speed these people on their way. Foreigners of more than 20 nationalities have not been barred from fleeing by Iraq, but well over two million of them are still in Iraq and Kuwait. Many of these frightened people, braving robbery and assault, are likely to head for the frontier.

Not all will make it, but even so, the migration will be on a scale demanding considerable logistical support. Today, thousands are camped in Jordanian schools, mosques and churches; more are sleeping on the streets. Jordan has already spent over £5 million on accommodation and transport for them, and the world must help provide temporary shelter, medical services and food. But the last thing they need is the establishment of vast semi-permanent tented cities. Victualing refugee settlements would, moreover, complicate the enforcement of an embargo against Iraq, since Jordan is still shipping goods across the border and some supplies intended for refugees would undoubtedly end up in Iraq. The priority must be to ensure that Jordan is only a way-station, not a permanent sanctuary.

These people are by definition refugees, because they are fleeing, but unlike the majority of the world's refugees, they have a home to go to. That is not as simple as it

sounds. First, although 1.7 million are Egyptians, many come from the other side of the world. There are 50,000 Filipinos, more than 10,000 Thais and nearly half a million from the Indian subcontinent. The European Community's decision to spend £650,000 on chartered flights is a good beginning, but a well-coordinated maritime bridge will also be needed. Egypt has doubled the number of ferries plying from Jordan's port, Aqaba, and has started an air shuttle, aiming to repatriate more than 12,000 a day. But with 50,000 Egyptians waiting at the docks, third countries should explore the offer by Syria to let its ports be used for ships ferrying Egyptians home.

Second, many of them have lived and worked for years in Iraq or Kuwait. They have been unable to draw the savings with which they might have set about rebuilding their lives in their own countries. High unemployment at home is one reason why they migrated to the Gulf in the first place. National, local and family solidarity will be severely stretched. Assistance with repatriation should not end once they arrive at the final port or airport. Many will need resettlement grants and, while national governments (whose exchequers have profited from their remittances) will quite properly bear most of the costs, the world has an interest in helping to ensure their successful reintegration in their home countries.

That is particularly true for Egypt. While already shouldering heavy military costs it stands to lose \$1.5 billion in foreign exchange remitted home by its "guest workers" in Iraq and Kuwait. Egypt's economy was in desperate shape even before the Gulf crisis. The return of some of these refugees will be a blessing, reversing a drain of manpower which has created severe shortages of teachers and skilled agricultural workers. But Egypt also has unemployment reckoned officially at 20 per cent, unofficially at nearly twice that figure. Initially, the plight of the refugees will further harden Egyptian hearts against Iraq. Unless they are helped, the economic and social strains caused by the exodus will add to President Mubarak's political problems. International solidarity with Egypt is not just a matter of charity: it is a vital Western interest.

## ASIAN MILLIONS

The sad queues of fleeing Kenyan and Ugandan Asians at Gatwick and Heathrow just over 20 years ago provoked a temporary racial backlash in Britain. Two decades on, the magazine *Management Today* has produced a happy and immeasurably reassuring sequel to those scenes of distress and uncertainty — the first thorough survey of Asian millionaires in Britain. The magazine estimates there are at least 300 of them, headed by the Hinduja brothers, the first British Asian billionaires.

The presence of this busy and prosperous community is an unqualified bonus to the country that took them in so hesitatingly. By benefiting themselves they have greatly benefited Britain. Asians — who increasingly ought to be called Britons of Asian origin — have a self-dependent culture that scorns reliance on state handouts and looks for security in personal wealth. Making it and losing it in Africa and lacking it on arrival in Britain, they had no hesitation in earning it once more. They are standing proof that Britain is a place which rewards enterprise, that starting at the bottom of the social heap does not have to mean being marooned there.

By no means all these success stories began with expulsion from Kenya or Uganda in the late 1960s, though any perceptive view of the quality of that influx would have detected all the signs of the arrival of a new British business class. Many of them lost their possessions and property and reached Britain not much better than penniless, armed with little more than an astute business sense and an almost fanatical capacity for hard work.

The Hinduja brothers are actually from Bombay, and Asians who came straight to Britain from the subcontinent are well represented in the list. But four of the top seven Asian businessmen catalogued by *Management Today* have this African connection. Asians, mostly from Africa, now own a large

slice of the corner shop grocery and newsagent businesses in Britain, and many of those shops would not exist without them. Often the whole family chips in, rarely are the doors locked at 5.29, usually they open on Sundays. They are invariably a boon to the local community they serve, even when it persists in good humouredly classifying them as Pakistanis.

Even greater Asian fortunes have been made in property than in the retail trade, and Asians are becoming well represented in the professions. None the less, the overall pattern of their businesses still shows all the signs of a first generation's struggle to gain a foothold, just like earlier mass migrations to Britain, the Jews in particular. As subsequent generations of Jews spread out from their early business and geographical bases, so the Asians can be expected to do likewise. The younger generation, either born in Britain or arrived in infancy, lacks nothing of its parents' dynamism. Teachers in British schools have begun to notice that Asian pupils often do well in motivation, behaviour and performance they stand out from the crowd.

The secure economic base they have established has yet to show a proportionate social and political impact, however. The willingness is there, but not always the invitation — the English are slow to include outsiders. The leadership of the Prince of Wales in his recent request to leading Asian businessmen to participate in his Youth Business Trust deserves more imitation. Their response to his appeal proved both their generosity and their public spiritedness. They are eager to belong.

Many a hope for a harmonious multiracial Britain has been disappointed in the last 20 years. But the debit side should not be exaggerated. Asians have begun to contribute to British society in a way which suggests that the goal is still well within our grasp.

## A SLIGHTLY WORN SUIT

In times gone by there were monarchs whose touch instantly healed the sick, or so the monarchs' press agents said. Today, we seem to have gone one better — several better, indeed. At a London auction, the black leather outfit worn by Michael Jackson in the photograph which appeared on the cover of one of his records was sold for £16,500.

Let us take it step by step. A diagram might help. Mr Jackson made a new record; the record company decided that there should be a picture of Mr Jackson on the cover; Mr Jackson donned black leather for the photographer; the picture was taken; the leather suit presumably being of no more use to him Mr Jackson discarded it; somebody picked it up; it went to auction; the Hard Rock Cafe in Los Angeles bid £16,500 for it, the identity of the under-bidder being unknown; and this is the house that Jack built.

The first question is the most obvious. Black leather suits are hardly exclusive to Mr Jackson: is everybody's star wore at the photo-session? The cynic might say that when you've seen one leather suit you've seen them all, and though the auction house would certainly have taken every precaution, there is always the possibility that even Mr Jackson could be sure that a leather suit he had worn for half an hour or so, presented to him for identification, was the real McCoy.

That, however, does not exhaust the problems this business poses. The proprietors of the Hard Rock Cafe in Los Angeles are entitled to their prize; they paid hard cash, and the jacket is theirs. But cynics are not to be found only in and around auction houses; what

happens when one of them walks in, seats himself on a bar stool and looks up? There, presumably in a glass case, is The Suit, labelled. But unless Mr Jackson is actually in the glass case wearing it, what proof is there that what the visitor sees really is the precious relic? (Some say that the figure in Red Square is not Lenin at all but a waxwork.)

What is most interesting in this tale is the fact that so many of the people involved are willing to ignore the possibility of a mistaken identity; apparently the drawing power of the suit is such that the crowds will come even though there are no certificates of authenticity available. Yet the crowds are still not seeing Mr Jackson; they are not even seeing a photograph of Mr Jackson; they are seeing a suit worn by Mr Jackson in a photograph. The question must be asked: does Mr Jackson's touch cure the King's Evil?

All day, the queues move slowly into Madame Tussaud's. No doubt Mr Jackson's figure is there; possibly, he is posed in a leather suit; more complications. Who knows how many leather suits Mr Jackson has? Salvador Dali, when collectors of his work brought him a painting, was frequently in the waggish habit of denying his hand when the picture was genuine, and simultaneously insisting on the authenticity of an obvious fake. Anyway, the collectors of Jacksoniana can comfort themselves. Whatever quarrels about authenticity there may be over their hero's discarded clothes, they will never get to the point reached by the man who was offering two guaranteed genuine skulls of Oliver Cromwell, one larger than the other. Asked how that could be, he replied coolly that the smaller one was Oliver's skull when he was a boy.

## Issues in Middle East beyond Iraq

From the General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers

From Sir Dennis Walters, MP for Westbury (Conservative)

Sir, Bernard Levin gratuitously drags me and some enlightened friends into his piece of August 23. He is, of course, wrong, as he usually is, on the Middle East, which he does not understand. His persistent Zionism, however, is of the benevolent and not the vicious kind.

On August 7 I sent to you and other editors a lengthy statement which you did not publish. I made four main points, which I shall briefly repeat.

1. The blatant and unprovoked act of aggression by Iraq on Kuwait must not be allowed to succeed.

2. President Saddam Hussein's accusations launched at the Emir of Kuwait were a grotesque distortion of the truth. Sheikh Jaber al-Sabah is one of the most independent-minded and wise of Arab leaders, a Kuwaiti patriot and a genuine Arab nationalist.

3. The United States, the Soviet Union, the EC and the world community must take the necessary steps to ensure that Iraq does not profit from its naked aggression.

4. Then they must turn their attention to Israel, which has for more than 20 years, in flagrant violation of international law and United Nations resolution 242, continued to occupy and colonise Arab land in Palestine and elsewhere. That unresolved cancer is at the root of almost all the dangerous turmoil in the Middle East.

It is essential, in the interests of peace and stability in the area, that these problems should be addressed as a matter of the utmost urgency.

Bernard Levin should also now try to make a serious study of the problems of the Middle East and not allow his prejudices to cloud his judgment.

Yours sincerely,  
DENNIS WALTERS,  
House of Commons,  
August 23.

From Mr Patrick Hanratty

Sir, Mr Levin calls Saudi Arabia "one of the most abominable and lawless states on earth". This statement cannot go unchallenged.

I spent five years resident in Jeddah working in a Saudi bank. Saudi Arabia is patently not lawless as it possesses a well-defined legal structure. The influence of Sharia law and Islamic traditions give the law a strong cultural expression. The penalties for offenders can be harsh, for which the simple answer to those who criticise is "don't break the law". Perhaps a message for us here.

Some westerners find accommodating different cultures a distinct difficulty. Fortunately most expatriates welcome the experience of living in a country of little violence, no vandalism, no graffiti and no public drunkenness.

Saudi Arabia is a young and very vulnerable country. The Saudis themselves are a proud and excessively polite people. We should support the Saudis at a difficult time and show ourselves true friends in a time of desperate need.

Yours faithfully,  
PATRICK HANRATTY,  
21 Tonsley Hill, SW18,  
August 23.

## Taste in ties

From the Chairman of the Guild of British Tie Makers

Sir, Mr Bocutt of Hampshire (August 17) bemoans the fact that we, the Guild of British Tie Makers, did not include reference to bow ties in our appraisal of the way people wear ties. The reason is relatively simple.

The traditional tie can be worn with a variety of knots and in a variety of ways — as our review indicated. But the bow tie has but one true knot and can only be worn neatly around the neck.

Accordingly there is little that one can say about a garment which is always worn in exactly the same way, other than that the wearer tends to be extrovert and frequently even flamboyant. It should be stated, however, that the guild's members produce a wide range of bow ties and are, of course, supporters of this classic garment.

Yours faithfully,  
D. L. FROOMBERG, Chairman,  
Guild of British Tie Makers,  
7 Swallow Place, W1,  
August 20.

## Hospital chaplains

From the Chairman of the Islington Health Authority

Sir, I can understand the caution of the Blackpool Victoria Hospital (letter, August 15) in relation to the appointment of a full-time chaplain. Part of the problem is that authorities like mine have not explained the benefits and nature of the services provided.

When Islington Health Authority replaced the rota of local ministers with a full-time chaplain six years ago there were some who questioned the relevance it had on direct patient care.

Our chaplaincy provides continuous support, counselling and ministerial services to patients and their relatives. It also provides invaluable support to hospital staff, particularly those working in high stress areas.

The chaplaincy is involved in a number of hospital policy com-

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

## Raising standards of education

From the General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers

Sir, Your leader of August 21 on the excellent speech by Sir Claus Moser about the state of British education was less than generous in its praise as well as making some highly questionable assertions.

First, you took issue with Sir Claus when he said that Britain did not care about education as much as other countries; yet the evidence clearly supports Sir Claus's theory. For instance we suffer from the most appalling staying-on rates at 16-plus principally because too many parents and pupils simply do not understand the need to acquire better qualifications, a lack of understanding which would totally bemuse people in most of our competitor countries.

Secondly, you link the abolition of selective education and new attitudes to teaching as the cause of an increase in the number of ill-educated children who lack basic standards of literacy and numeracy. There are thousands of examples of schools which pursue the policy of achieving the highest possible academic standards for every pupil in accordance with his or her ability.

The undoubted need to raise standards of literacy and numeracy would be better pursued by changing teacher attitudes where they are deficient, and in particular by raising their levels of expectations. Teachers who continue to fail in this respect ultimately must be removed.

Thirdly, you challenge the assertion by Sir Claus that the education system is under-funded. Nobody could seek to argue that we should not deploy current resources to best effect, but the evidence of under-funding by any set of comparators is so overwhelming that I am surprised that you should try to brush it on one side.

It would be highly imprudent for anybody concerned with education to ignore Sir Claus's central message that this country is unprepared educationally to a dangerous degree as we rapidly approach 1992 and beyond, and the fierce international competition which will come in its wake.

Yours sincerely,  
DAVID HART,  
General Secretary,  
National Association of Head Teachers,  
1 Heath Square,  
Bolton Road,  
Haywards Heath, West Sussex,  
August 22.

From Mr Jim Stather

Sir, I read with interest Sir Claus Moser's evaluation of British education as being one of the worst in Europe. I note that he calls for more resources and raised salaries for teachers. Even adequate levels

## Access to parks

From Mr John Varney

Sir, For a national park officer to speak out against too much tourism of the wrong kind is a brave move. Mr Richard Harvey, of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, is therefore to be congratulated (report, August 15).

National parks have a difficult job to balance conservation with access by the public and the guidelines for doing so are woefully inadequate. It is a sad reflection on how far things have deteriorated that this week we also hear a caution against women walking alone in the Lake District for fear they will be molested.

Can we any longer sustain the idea as the tourist boards seem to be saying in an adjoining report that all tourists are equal? Can we as tourists equally enjoy rights of access, if to do so will result in our finest heritage landscapes being trodden underfoot?

## Abortion law in Lords

From Lord Houghton of Sowerby, CH

Sir, The Duke of Norfolk is reported (August 13) to be marshalling the support of fellow peers to disagree with certain of the decisions of the House of Commons upon abortion law reform.

I believe the grounds of the Duke's action to be totally unjustified. He alleges that unless stricter upper gestational age limits are imposed on late abortions the Bill would permit doctors to carry out abortions for the "most flimsy of reasons". This expresses more

than a groundless fear: it is absolutely false, as is proved in detail in Lord Brightman's letter which you published on June 19. The House of Commons decided on two separate occasions (April 24 and June 21) to implement the unanimously agreed recommendations of a select committee of the House of Lords after full enquiry and the taking of much evidence in 1987-88. It would be an affront to ask the House of Commons to think again.

Yours faithfully,  
HOUGHTON OF SOWERBY,  
House of Lords,  
August 15.

## Drugs in Pakistan

From Mr Kunwar Khalid Yonus

Sir, Your diplomatic correspondent reported (August 14) on Begum Bhutto's disclosure that her then Government was going to expose important names sitting in important places who are involved in the heroin trade, just before the dismissal of the Government.

I am an ex-member of the National Assembly of Pakistan and I, too, was constantly combating this menace, but I found myself quite helpless when, in spite of my several questions in Parliament, her Government refused to unveil not only those names but also a list of drug barons in Pakistan, supplied by a friendly Western country.

Since Ms Nusrat Bhutto has already mentioned this and is certainly aware of such powerful and influential people she should now identify them by name.

Yours etc,  
KUNWAR KHALID YONUS,  
21-22 Stanhope Gardens, SW7,  
August 17.

## When the cap does not fit

From Mr S. J. Burroughs

Sir, Some unusual things have been happening at English cricket this year. When I was at school selection for the first eleven was rewarded with a cap that I aspired to as soon as my eyes had dried. That dream came true and although other cricketing dreams have remained on the wrong side of the shop window, they have focused on a cap as the badge of office.

The thickened flannel of a cricket cap, the green under the peak, the various colours and stripes of fame, the instant feel and weight of the thing picked out of the bag, given a friendly swipe at the thigh and adjusted to the head, seemed as fundamental to an English cricketer as a kepi to a legionnaire. Indeed to other national teams allowing for minor alterations in shape, it still is.

But what is this thing that now invades the English scene? It folds like a canvas wallet and appears to be machine washable but it fades rapidly, thankfully. Was it rescued from the footplate of the 6.19, or did it fall from a postman's pocket? Is it a souvenir of some baseball match? I am told you can buy them at garages in jeans blue or claret.

I might just be persuaded that these extraordinary bits of head gear are a phase, but then I see tracksuits instead of blazers and messages being painted on the outfield. Perhaps Cornhill is a variant of corn circle and the game is being controlled by some alien force allergic to tradition?

Would some peace offering put things right? We could enforce the law about intimidatory bowling, who knows — we might see John Morris make a century in an English cricket cap.

Yours faithfully,  
SIMON BURROUGHS,  
Mishbury Hall, Brackley,  
Northamptonshire,  
August 23.

## Witnesses at risk

From Mr Ricardo Dorich

Sir, I recently attended a London juvenile court as a witness in a case involving attempted theft and assault. I was one of the individuals who helped arrest the youth and who, during the course of the arrest, suffered minor head injuries from him.

Consequently, I was surprised that as a witness in such a case I was told to wait in the general hall amongst the various defendants. During this period, the defendant in the case that I was concerned with insulted as well as threatened me and the two other witnesses involved. Subsequently, much to my dismay, he appeared unaccompanied. He then came towards me and spat at me twice.

Defendants should be kept separately from witnesses prior to appearing in court. With the present lack of any visible order, incidents like this one can only help to discourage members of the public from appearing as witnesses in order to facilitate the carrying out of justice.

Yours faithfully,  
RICARDO DORICH,  
Hyde House, Long Sutton,  
Nr Basingstoke, Hampshire,  
August 16.

## Manuscript losses

From Mrs Jennifer Macrory

Sir, Dr Nicholas Marston (August 14) is right to draw attention to the problem of making available to scholars manuscripts in private ownership. Reliance on the part of owners to make known their identity is entirely understandable. They have a duty to secure the safety of the manuscript as well as a right to enjoy the use of it, and a public listing could jeopardize both.

At Rugby we have a small collection which we find difficult to maintain because we can ill afford the staff, but we are nevertheless anxious that accredited scholars should have access to it. Our solution has been to shelter under the benevolent wing of the University of Birmingham, who have details of our holdings but do not necessarily reveal ownership to enquirers unless they are satisfied that their interest is genuine.

Might it not be possible for all private owners to be offered the opportunity to register manuscripts with public institutions on a regional basis whilst retaining confidentiality of ownership if they so wish?

Yours faithfully,  
JENNIFER MACRORY  
(Librarian),  
Rugby School,  
Temple Reading Room,  
Rugby,  
Warwickshire,  
August 14.

## Obstacle course

From Mrs R. R. Morris

Sir, During the recent three-week visit of our six-year-old granddaughter, we experienced one dinosaur exhibition; two donkey derbies; one oceanarium; one national parks activity day; six beach visits (with surfboard); one local country show; one day at leisure park (including roller-coaster and cressa run); two bicycle outings; several kite-flying expeditions; two visits to swimming pool; one river boat trip.

Yours faithfully,  
S. W. MORRIS,  
Lower House, Bemis,  
Pembroke, Dyfed,  
August 21.













New uses for old: Elgin East station, once the pride of the GNSR line, has been turned into a business centre

# Finding a new station in life

**T**he town of Elgin, in Morayshire, boasts a handsome array of classical architecture appropriate to its name. More unexpected is the large baronial railway station, which British Rail vacated two years ago. The decision was understandable. Elgin East, as it was known, stood on an awkward loop of line only 200 yards from Elgin West, the operational station.

The size of the old station reflects Elgin's position as the county capital. It was the place where the local gentry congregated for balls and assemblies. The Great North of Scotland Railway (GNSR), which ran from Aberdeen to Elgin, was evidently determined to overawe the Highland Railway, which came in from the west.

Elgin East, which replaced an earlier station, was completed in 1898 to the designs of P.M. Barnett, the line's chief engineer. Other notable stations on the line were at Inverurie, home of the locomotive works, where a panelled ticket hall and waiting-room survive, and Peterhead, which had the ultimate flourish of an overall iron roof.

As the line had no steep gradients, the GNSR needed just one class of engine, a substantial 4-4-0, painted in green and black.

The search for a new use for the station was spurred by the Railway Heritage Trust. For a while there was a prospect that the old station might become a whisky museum, appropriate because the Chivers Brothers' bonded warehouses stand alongside the line to the south, and the Spey Valley whisky trail runs nearby.

The solution came when the Scottish Development Agency (SDA) stepped in to develop the station as a business centre. Fifteen or 20 years ago the site would simply have been bulldozed for factory units. As it is, the SDA and Grampian Regional Council have carried out an exemplary restoration at a budget price. With slightly more than £250,000 to spend, Douglas Forrest, the architect, had some sleepless nights, but the rugged sandstone has responded superbly to cleaning and emerged without a blemish.

The main challenge was to meet the fire regulations without wrecking the building. The authorities

required complete separation for each of the 19 units, which could have involved stripping out all the original woodwork and replacing it with concrete. The solution was to install a sophisticated smoke and heat alarm, which will ring in the local fire station, a minute's drive away. A display panel near the front door locates the fire immediately. All the woodwork has also been painted with five coats of flame-retardant varnish.

Internally, the main feature is the spacious booking hall, top-lit from a stately barrel vault. All the woodwork around the ticket windows survives, as does the ornate railing in front, intended to ensure passengers queued in an orderly fashion.

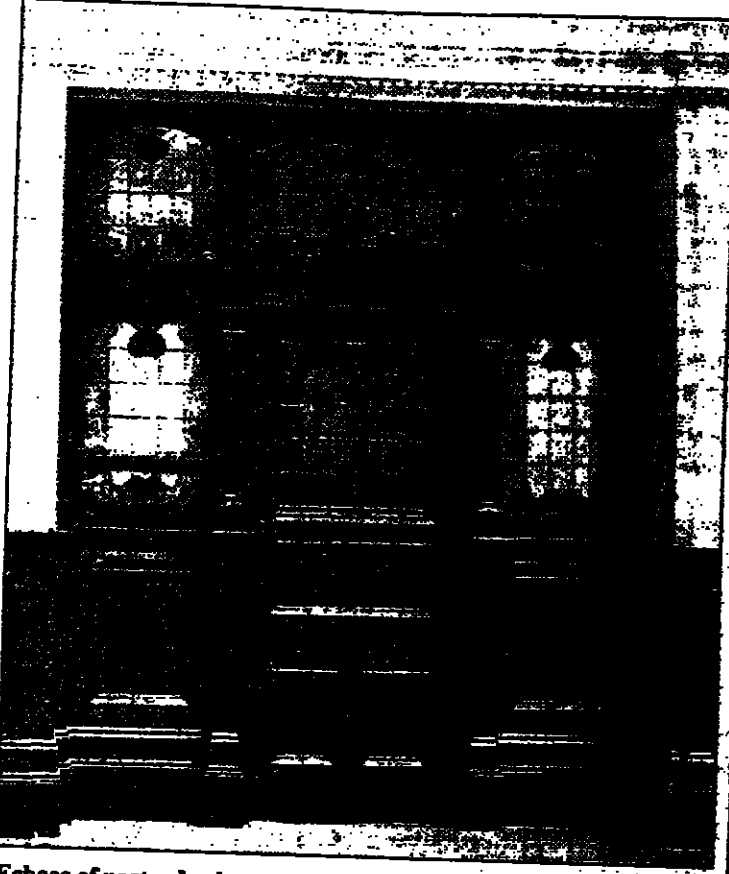
The plasterwork, complete with new pineapple pendants, has been restored by Brodie's of Elgin, which retained the original specification of April 29, 1898, when the present managing director's great grandfather tendered a fee of £840 for all the plasterwork

and internal tiling. Some of the elaborate panels of stained glass have been remade by Arcadia, a Stonehaven firm, with coloured glass imported from West Germany (the firm points out that this could now be obtained in England because Harley Wood, Britain's only specialist maker of antique coloured glass, has reopened in Monkwearmouth, Tyne & Wear).

A year after completion, more than half the units are let and John Black, who runs the estates office at Grampian council, is confident the rest will find tenants by the end of the year. The council has two other business centres, one in an old school at Aberdeen and another at Peterhead.

The latest tenants include an insurance broker and a private health agency, joining the Moray Enterprise Trust, a chiropodist, a camera club and the architects of the conversion. Rents are low - £3.50 to £5 a square foot.

MARCUS BINNEY



Echoes of past splendours: much of the old station has been restored

## Events in town

- THIS WEEKEND**
- Westminster and London horse show: International showjumping, Shetlands and shires, pony club games and other events. Hyde Park. Today, tomorrow and Mon from 10am, free.
  - Notting Hill weekend: Biggest and best known street festival in Britain, now in its 22nd year. Ladbroke Grove and environs, London W11. Tomorrow and Mon from 11am (081-964 0544).
  - Havering show and country fair: Sheepdog demonstrations, jousting, steam engines, bands, Harrow Lodge Park, Hornchurch. Tomorrow and Mon noon-8pm, free, car park £1.
  - Bromley carnival: Procession and 10th, dog show, martial arts and other displays. Norman Park, Hayes Lane. Mon 12.30-5pm, 75p, child 50p.
  - Cavalcade of popular music: Entertainment from Victorian music hall to Thelma and Forties swing. Barbican Centre, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 4141). Tomorrow, Mon 12.30-7pm, free.
  - Family activities at the royal palaces: Treasure hunts at Hampton Court and Kensington Palace, 10.30am-12.30pm and 2-4pm; at Kew, 11am-1pm and 3.30-4.30pm.
  - The Royal Palaces, London and Surrey. Mon, 50p plus usual admission charge.
  - International model boat convention: Largest annual event of its kind with more than 400 models on display. The Boat Museum, Dockyard Road, Ebbw Vale, South Wales. (081 555 5017). Tomorrow, Mon 10am-5pm, £3.50, child £2.
  - Portsmouth navy day: RN ships open to visitors. Air and arena displays, harbour trips. Dockyard, Queen Street. Today, tomorrow, Mon 10am-5.30pm, £4, child £2.
  - Nottingham medieval market: Grand parade, street entertainment with minstrels and theatre groups. Old Market Square. Mon 10am-5pm, free.
  - Swansea flower show: More than 1,500 entries. Tomorrow, a fête and gala. Singleton Park. Today 1-7pm, £1.10, child 50p. Tomorrow 10am-6pm, £1.50, child 70p.
- NEXT WEEK**
- Bristol flower show: Displays, competitions, craft and education workshops, and entertainments. Durdham Downs. Wed, Thurs, Fri, £3.60 first day, £2 other days, accompanied child free.
  - National Dublin Society show: Specialist show for enthusiasts. RHS Halls, Vincent Sq, London SW1. Wed noon-6.30pm, £2.50.
  - Durham beer festival: More than 80 traditional beers from all over Britain, plus cider and perry. Durham House, New Elvet. Thurs-Sat, £1.
  - Salisbury festival: Music, drama, exhibitions, opera. Salisbury, Wiltshire. Thurs-Sat 15 (box office, 0722 25173).

JUDY FROSHAUG

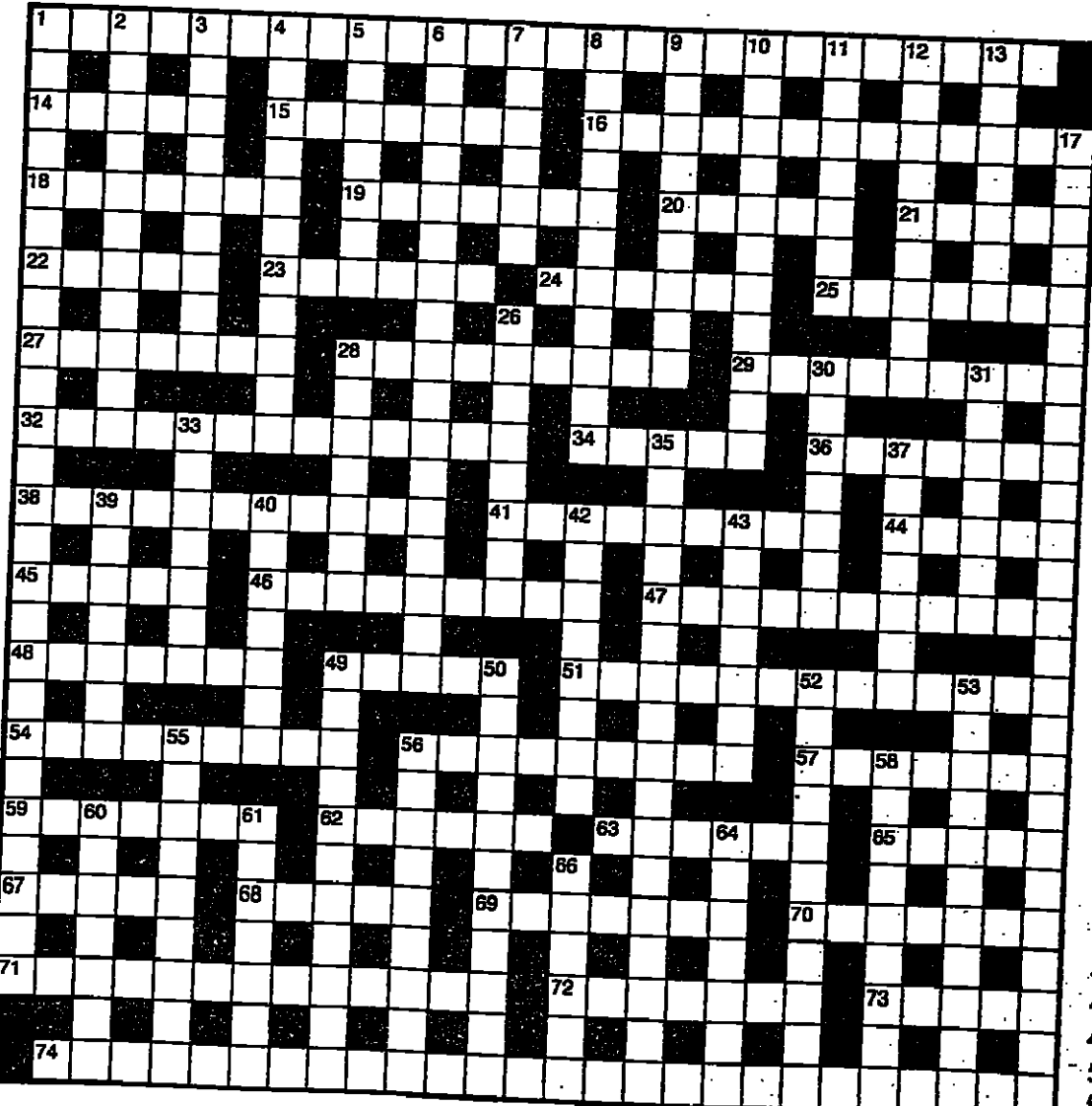
# The Times Prize Jumbo Crossword

## Concise Jumbo

Prizes of £50 will be given for the first five correct solutions opened on Monday, September 10, 1990. Entries should be sent to The Times Jumbo Crossword Competition, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be published on Saturday, September 15.

There are no prizes for this crossword. The solution will appear on Monday.

- ACROSS**
- 1 Earth circuit in time, according to the book (6,3,5,2,6,4)
  - 14 Wine bar finally up and going (5)
  - 15 'aving 'ad a close shave? Close, indeed (7)
  - 16 Aid a union he created (8,5)
  - 18 A cardinal points out lack of colour (7)
  - 19 Romantic type getting tense about maiden (7)
  - 20 Start on beat in dance (5)
  - 21 Eager to make money (5)
  - 22 River's right edge (5)
  - 23 Nasty sort found on fringes of union (6)
  - 24 Extra section removed from manual, eg by editor (3-3)
  - 25 Writer giving other novel to the French (7)
  - 27 Artist is leader of school in China (7)
  - 28 Belligerence broken down in pact with guy (9)
  - 29 Least colourful artist without a place for exercise (9)
  - 32 Sea area and not yonder lake - grotesque (5,8)
  - 34 White said to be dazzling (5)
  - 36 Some shun me, antisocially, by accident (7)
  - 38 MPs' work is left in ambassador's office (11)
  - 41 In doubly strict cut, it could be essential (9)
  - 44 Held forth part of wheel (5)
  - 45 Chap accepting openings offered by secret order? (5)
  - 46 Consort with one from Mediterranean port (9)
  - 47 A partner's mishandled no trump, that's clear (11)
  - 48 Steward's beginning to carry on in the store room (7)
  - 49 Shame for audience in music-hall (5)
  - 51 In which royal pronouncements are made, naturally (6,7)
  - 54 Self-absorbed, start before green appears (9)
  - 56 Starts off trend - hit lion in performance (9)
  - 57 Practical view is taken in king's place (7)
  - 59 Following army, I advance in the rear (4-3)
  - 62 Made a meal out of principle that's imperfect (6)
  - 63 Wide, more robust sort of boat (6)
  - 65 County gallery's first paintings put back outside (5)
  - 67 Composition for musical milkmaids, for example (5)
  - 68 His compatriot's pronounced a great writer (5)
  - 69 Let back in to study at US university (7)
  - 70 Girl run in, mainly for crashing (7)
  - 71 They take steps to master figures such as 61 (6-7)
- DOWN**
- 2 A bishop has answer that's clear (7)
  - 23 Nonsense about Cape Dutch painter (5)
  - 24 A contradiction in terms for King James (3,6,4,2,1,1)
  - 25 Labour's standard is unfairly associated with hammer and sickle, perhaps (1,3,7,6,3,5)
  - 26 Extremist twice striking monarch (3-3-5)
  - 27 Calm, never flustered? Not so (9)
  - 28 Lanterns cut out, letting some light through (11)
  - 29 Identify certain stock in bear market (7)
  - 30 Poetic work due, we hear, to darkly tempestuous experience (3,2,1,1,1)
  - 31 Miss story about fool (6)
  - 32 Harvest in state followed by boxing (11)
  - 33 In fairness, judge's conclusion went well (9)
  - 34 Of course, person in charge is inexperienced warder (5,6)
  - 35 Painter's final work in Ulster, say (7)
  - 36 Fish to distribute when lots of deliveries come in (5,4)
  - 37 Distance, for example, a cart turned over (7)
  - 38 Get on bandwagon - good advice when drums are split? (2,3,4,4,4,4,4)
  - 39 New kite held by wild boy (3-5)
  - 40 Sweet pair having a row (7)
  - 41 Luce's an odd fish (7)
  - 42 Plant's leaves moved from bed (3,4)
  - 43 Shout of acclamation from Xhosa native (7)
  - 44 Entertainment provided by a few bars in the evening (1,6,5,5)
  - 45 Wild horse innocent man's breaking in (7)
  - 46 Board game to play in naval base (7)
  - 47 Made possibly into expert here? (7)
  - 48 Composed leader for Times - managed with old pen, mostly (8)
  - 49 Girl close to supporting call for peace current in Ireland (7)
  - 50 No longer able to jump beyond limits set (3,2,6)
  - 51 Count from here to ten? 100 or 1000 is wrong (5,6)
  - 52 Amplifiers for hearing organ and brass instruments (3,8)
  - 53 Set computer's value at first - is it in ideal form? (11)
  - 54 Defeat that's the result of bad fielding (9)
  - 55 Most people would like it to be safer, cooked (5,4)
  - 56 Open to conviction, since liable to legal action? That's about right (9)
  - 60 Having contacted 49 di? (2,5)
  - 61 Provision for a couple sitting out part of dance (3-1-3)
  - 64 Refuse to accept a pound - it's not so much (7)
  - 66 State a principle I'm upset about (6)



Name .....

Address .....

**SOLUTION TO NO 2263 (yesterday's concise crossword)**  
ACROSS: 8 Trawler 9 Pluto 10 Pat 11 Doctrinal 12 Panto 14 Results 17 Rocking 19 Roman 22 Gentleman 24 Bib 25 Empty 26 Needed  
DOWN: 1 Step up 2 Hasten 3 Gladioli 4 Crack regiment 5 Spar 6 Funnel 7 Worlds 13 Ado 15 Sprinter 16 Tea 17 Ragged 18 Canape 20 Mobile 21 Nobody 23 Lays

- ACROSS**
- 1 Royal toy dog (8,4,7,7)
  - 14 Dents (5)
  - 15 Buildings passage (7)
  - 16 Plant, animal life (5,3,5)
  - 18 Decaying (7)
  - 19 Brilliant glass (7)
  - 20 Illicit alcohol (5)
  - 21 Influence (3,2)
  - 22 Pounce (5)
  - 23 Portable computer (3,3)
  - 24 Stimulating spur (6)
  - 25 Went to bed (7)
  - 27 Stupid (7)
  - 28 Cut marks (9)
  - 29 Clothes boards (9)
  - 32 Everyday stacle (7,6)
  - 34 Steps series (5)
  - 36 Advance commodities trade (7)
  - 38 Butterflies, moths (11)
  - 41 Incriminate (9)
  - 44 Extreme (5)
  - 45 Put out (5)
  - 46 Fierce attack (9)
  - 47 Get going (3,3,5)
  - 48 Entertainer (7)
  - 49 Church cellar (5)
  - 51 Capability (13)
  - 54 Engulf (9)
  - 56 Light weapons (5,4)
  - 57 Maths formula (7)
  - 59 Downcast (7)
  - 62 Waylay (6)
  - 63 Paris national gallery (6)
  - 65 Attempt to fool (3,2)
  - 67 Lymphatic swellings (5)
  - 68 Female ruff (5)
  - 69 Not coded (2,5)
  - 70 US Montgomery state (7)
  - 71 Filling up (13)
  - 72 Whenever (3,4)
  - 73 Engraving pens (5)
- DOWN**
- 1 Highest US military decoration (13,5,2,5)
  - 2 US holidaymaker (11)
  - 3 Suffer computer breakdown (4,5)
  - 4 Missionary (11)
  - 5 Patella (7)
  - 6 Bad behaviour towards a woman (2,3,2,5,1,4)
  - 7 Prairie wolf (6)
  - 8 Terrible scenes (5,6)
  - 9 Let-outs (9)
  - 10 Authority centre (4,2,5)
  - 11 Hole maker (7)
  - 12 Pacifist (2,7)
  - 13 0 deg latitude (7)
  - 17 For church as national institution (25)
  - 26 Learning (8)
  - 28 Ecstatic Quakers sect (7)
  - 30 Rejuvenate (7)
  - 31 Catholic priest's hat (7)
  - 33 Brain-teasers (7)
  - 35 Very welcome spectacle (1,5,3,4,4)
  - 37 Special fund guardian (7)
  - 39 Glass drawing tube (7)
  - 40 Discovery (7)
  - 42 Pamph (3,5)
  - 43 Sets on (7)
  - 49 Friendship (11)
  - 50 Broadcast (11)
  - 52 Representing (2,3,4,2)
  - 53 Ancient documents (5,6)
  - 55 Broad scope (4,5)
  - 56 Species groups (3,6)
  - 58 Consume great quantities (3,6)
  - 60 Superficiality (2,5)
  - 61 Maidenly (7)
  - 64 Dizziness (7)
  - 66 Finger cake (6)

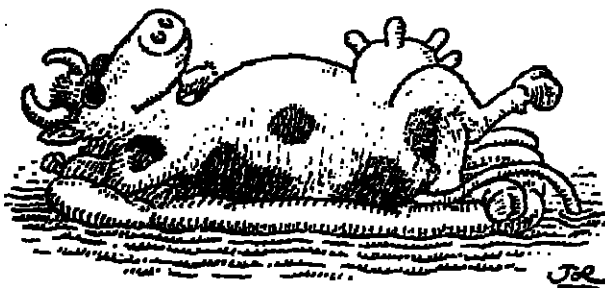


HOW did your holiday packing go? Mine was frenzied. I realise that with harvest coming in the middle of the holiday season, farming and summer breaks are going to be unhappy partners from now on. But as we have no corn crop this year, we thought the chance of a final summer fling was worth taking. Next year it will be binders, sheaves, pitchforks and sweat. This year it was to be Ireland, open seas and green hills. Before leaving, I dashed down to the marsh and judged that the sheep had enough nibbling for the short time we would be away. Not so the cows: in a pleading telephone call I begged a meadow off a neighbour and moved the three heifers on to that. The pig family was given sanctuary in the orchard, where Alice quickly learnt that by rubbing herself against the apple trees she could bring down an endless supply of Golden Delicious manna from heaven. Having created a picture of rural contentment and organised a feeding rota, we closed the gate behind us and headed west.

I envy the farmers of western Ireland two things. First, they have grass of a succulent greenness

## Tellin' the aul' cowsh where to go

Farmer's diary: Paul Heiney



that I have not seen at home for many months. This peaty abundance explains why the Irish produce so much milk with so little effort. A wild rumour spread through the village in which we were staying that a hero from the local creamery had discovered a way of turning milk into alcohol: if it had been true, St Patrick's patronage of the country might well have been under threat.

What I most envy the Cork and Kerry farmers, however, is their attitude. It is not that they do not care, it is simply that they expend worry only on things which are really worth worrying about. And wandering animals do not come into that category.

Take the herd of cows that strolled past us as we sat on a stone wall in the middle of nowhere. At home, cows on the road would have an escort of men in pick-up trucks and a tractor, with lights blazing and horn sounding. Out in

the rocky wilderness no man was to be seen; just cows, shuffling and sniffing the hedgerows and eyeing us with suspicion.

Ten minutes after they had passed, an ambling figure appeared, shabbily dressed and with a wind-burnt face that had spent many happy years gazing into glasses of stout. "Have you seen any cowsh?" he asked in a half-hearted way. "Yes," we said, "heading that way," and we pointed up the hill. "Oh dear, oh

dear, oh dear," the farmer grumbled. "They know they're not supposed to go that way. Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear." Then, to our surprise, instead of heading after them, he turned and went the other way, saying: "If ver shee 'em comin' back, jush keep 'em pointin' west." And he was gone.

Ten minutes passed and his confidence was repaid. Back came the cows wearing a guilty out-of-bounds look on their faces. They were pointing west, and so we let

them go unchecked. This left a deep impression on me. When we returned home I vowed that things around here were going to slow to the same enviable pace. No more running after stock, no more palpitations at the sight of a sheep on the wrong side of its fence: less time on my feet and more time on the bar stool.

This calm transcendental state lasted all of half an hour. I went down to the marsh to count the sheep, and found one missing. The chap who had been keeping an eye on them was not sure where it was. Shaken, but not stirred, I simply said: "Ah well, she'll be back, she'll be back."

In the baking heat of the farmyard, the intoxicating, lazy scent of clover hay elevated me on to an even higher plane. "It looks as though the piglets have been escaping," my wife said. "Is that so?" I replied. "Well, I hope they had a nice stroll. I'll mend the

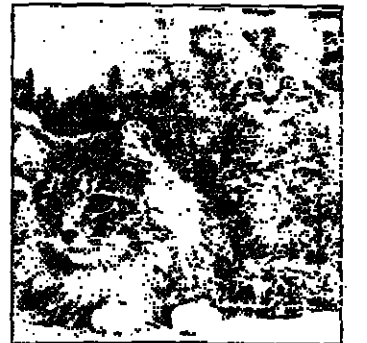
fence, sometime." The carthorses looked well. "I must get you boys back to work," I thought to myself, "... one of these days." Then the telephone rang.

I went through the usual pleasantries: yes, we'd had a lovely time, the weather was terrific, yes, wasn't it hot? Then the bombshell dropped: "Did you know," the voice said, "that while you were away, your cows got into your neighbour's swimming pool?" The holiday mood vanished. My mind raced with visions of Red Poll heifers doing the butterfly, of hoofs jammed in filters and cow pats on the patio. I realised that the suburbanised parts of Suffolk were, after all, a far cry from the wild shores of Dunmanus. I worded the insurance claim in my head and wondered if anyone would believe it.

Upon discovering the truth of the matter, which was that the cows had merely got their heads over the fence to nibble the grass round the pool, I felt easier. Still, had things been as bad as I had thought, I doubt I would have had the courage to look my neighbour in the eye and ask him to "keep 'em paddlin' wesh".

### Breeding

## Big cats back from the dead



Maine coon Sylvester and kitten

THE Maine coon is the ultimate cat. Anita Rowsell says, and after meeting one of her 20th felines, which may well measure 36in from whisker to tail-tip, I am inclined to agree. For example, Rambo, a brown tabby, is 12in tall at the shoulder with a front paw span of 2in, which enables him to indulge his tendency to leap 5ft vertically.

Rambo and his kind are said to be descended from Marie Antoinette's favourite cats which, it is claimed, were shipped to New England after her execution. Other stories attribute their presence in North America to the Vikings. The story has it that the cats mated with wild American bobcats and even lynx.

Fame came when a Maine coon was judged best cat of the New York City show in 1895, but less than 65 years later the American Cat Fanciers' Association pronounced the breed extinct.

The Maine coons fought back, however, and Mrs Rowsell can now sell Rambo's progeny for £400 each. She will sell them only as pets, not for breeding. "They are magnificent cats with wonderful temperaments and have not been spoiled by in-breeding," she says. She intends to keep things that way.

Mrs Rowsell, who lives near Lewes, Sussex, has waiting lists from people expressing colour specifications that include silver, blue, brown, red or cream tabbies, along with various bi-colours.

The Maine coons have their own distinguishing features, other than size and colour. When grown they have tufted "snow shoes". Their tails, like fur coats, are often the width of their bodies. Tough characters in some ways, they are nevertheless big softies. Mrs Rowsell says, "I have never known one to scratch. Their single coats make them feasible as pets for people who suffer from allergies."

The cats are as happy being active as they are being supine. "They will fly through the air after insects," Mrs Rowsell says. They also enjoy being walked on leads, will retrieve thrown sticks and enjoy playing with water.

Because they are twice the size of ordinary cats, Maine coons cost twice as much to feed, and a diet of tinned cat food should be avoided. Mrs Rowsell says. Fresh meat or fish should be provided every day, together with a complete pelleted food imported from America.

SANDY BISP

Further information: Mrs Anita Rowsell (0273 852275).

## A pearl of a place for the knitters

Home from home: Marion Foale

At weekends, when most people with second homes are leaving the city for the country, Chris Jones, the husband of Marion Foale, the knitwear designer, is heading the other way. He serves as a "Saturday boy" in the wholesale and retail showroom which doubles as the Jones's London home. "We both need to spend a lot of time in town," he says, "and our two homes are an extension of each other. We try to create the same feeling in them."

Their London home in Hinde Street, W1, is a microcosm of their farmhouse in north Warwickshire. "We'll often sit there with the blinds drawn at night, and treat it just as we do the living-room at our country home," Mr Jones says. "It has a similar, open, feeling since we knocked down walls."

They move furniture from place to place as the mood suits them, so their summery Lloyd-loom chairs are now in London. "We take them back to the country in the winter," Ms Foale says, "and something else - maybe a big old trunk I found locally - will go down. We generally keep our best bits in London."

The farmhouse, near where Mr Jones was born, has the feeling of a warm, family home, with childlike memorabilia cluttering the open-plan living room, and a large pool table taking pride of place.

Parts of the beamed house date from the 13th century and its only neighbour is the church. Like the London residence, which has an art deco interior, it is also a base for the knitwear business. "But we make homes and then occupy ourselves with a business on the side," Ms Foale says. "Not the other way around."

Mr Jones had his own knitwear company when Ms Foale was a fashion designer who had not yet developed her talent for producing three-dimensional knitwear patterns shaped to cling and swing. Her latest collection includes elegant swing-back tops in silver to go over the black stretch pants which have remained a staple for many seasons. Among the acces-

sories are chenille shawls and gamut-style gloves to go with the sweaters for which she is famous.

Ms Foale's career was interrupted when the children came along - Polly aged 17, Charlie, 13 - and it was while she was looking for a way to combine working from home with looking after the children that the hand-knitwear business was born. She is proud of the fact that she has never employed a nanny.

Marion Foale sweaters sell in chic stores such as Bergdorf Goodman, Barney's and Charivari in New York, and Whistles in London, as well as from the showroom in Hinde Street. But Ms Foale makes it clear that, however sophisticated the designs and clientele, it is very much a cottage industry.

She spends more time in Warwickshire and prefers the countryside, although she is a Londoner. "I can stick it here much longer than Chris," she says. Mr Jones hankers for the buzz of London, but says of the farmhouse: "This is where sanity lies."

Ms Foale experiments with knitting such things as silver-knitted wool squares while watching television in the evening, passing on the designs to the supervisors of the 500 or so knitters in the surrounding countryside. "I've knitted only one whole sweater in my life," she says.

Every Monday there is a queue of knitters at the farmhouse, bringing in pieces to be professionally finished - the Joneses have found that knitters hate to sew - and take away new wool.

The house, converted into two separate dwellings, has been kept that way, with the business occupying one part, the home the other. Ms Foale's workroom is sandwiched between the two. "Since I usually stop work when the children come home from school, I will often come back here in the evening and sit, with a drink, and do some of my best work," she says. "But I would never let the business take over the home."

VICTORIA MCKEE



Country contentment: Chris Jones and his wife Marion Foale, the knitwear designer, at their old farmhouse and workshop in Warwickshire

### Feather report

## Fair day for selling birds

THESE days, birds are big business. Naturally, the birder feels slightly ambiguous about this: he wants the birds and the bird places to himself. Even less admirably, he likes the idea of birding as a claim for, if not personal uniqueness, membership of an exclusive brethren.

At the same time, he feels a missionary zeal. His better side wants the important joys of birding, of life, to be freely available. He wants birds (and life) to matter to all sorts and conditions. Despite the birder's secret and selfish joys, it is conservation that matters, and conservation needs a shared will. Well, we need not fear any lack of will. Birding is now a boom industry. This is so much the case that next Friday a three-day national birding event begins. It is the first British Bird Fair, and is being held at Egleton nature reserve, Rutland Water, near Oakham, which is in what we must remember to call Leicestershire.

The fair is an amphibian. It walks hand in hand with conservation groups and also swims freely in the capitalistic waters of Britain. It has been organised by the Leicestershire and Rutland Trust for Nature Conservation and the East Midlands office of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, and is sponsored by In Focus, an optical company.

There is a programme of lectures and talks, including "Wild-life of a Country Roadside" and "The Himalaya - Birding on the Roof of the World". Conservation groups such as the RSPB will take the opportunity to recruit members and to show people what they are doing with their funds.

Part of the admission money will go to the Coto Donana Appeal. The Coto Donana is an area of Spanish wetland scheduled to be drained in the cause of golfing tourism. An international effort to reverse this plan is now in operation.

All in all, then, the bird fair is



clearly a good thing. But there is more to it than the good guys on the front line of conservation, there is business. After all, *Bird Watching* magazine claims that birding is "one of the fastest growing leisure activities in Britain".

Birding is not really supposed to be an equipment sport but, all the same, people like to spend money on their passions. As passions escalate, so does spending. Thus birding becomes big business. For example, I learn to my horror that I no longer possess the most expensive binoculars on the market. All other binoculars now look cheap and stuffy compared with the new Bausch and Lomb Elite, which costs £699. "They delivered a crystal clear image in all conditions, but it was their performance in low light that really demonstrated their pedigree," wrote a reviewer.

Naturally, one also needs a telescope (which must always be

called a 'scope'). You can start at around a hundred quid for a second-hand job (if you're lucky) and just keep going. With a 'scope, you have opportunities for frustration that a binoculars-only person cannot dream of: the black speck on the water that dives just before you have focused; the brown wader that vanishes as you set up your tripod and, above all, the ache in the shoulder from carrying the damn thing all day.

Then, of course, there is all the protective clothing. At the bird fair, you might escape without upgrading your optical kit, but could anyone with red blood in his veins resist a new waterproof or rousers that keep you warm, the length of the shivering marshes of January birding?

Then there are companies that sell birding holidays: to the Coto Donana, perhaps, or to the Galapagos, Africa, the Shetlands, The Netherlands, the Falkland Islands - anywhere where there are decent birds to see, there seems to be a company ready to take you there.

Then there is the bliss of books. People with the faintest possible interest in birds have a bird book, and the more involved you get, the more books you need. Do you know, for some obscure reason I still have not purchased a single volume of *Birds of the Western Palearctic*? There are five volumes already available, each one a snip at £80.

I had better not go to the show; I do not think I would escape from Rutland without a pair of Bausch and Lomb, a new 'scope, all five volumes of the Western Palearctic and a trip back to Zambia.

All the same, it makes you think. There are serious people and serious money in birding these days and birding is, or should be, no more and no less than a synonym for conservation. Where there are people and money, there is power: power to get things done.

SIMON BARNES

### Country events

#### THIS WEEKEND

● The Plantagenets at Pevensey: Re-creation of medieval battle tactics, early music and, tonight, a display with flaming arrows and torches. Pevensey Castle, Sussex (0323 782 604). Today 7.30pm, tomorrow and Mon 11am-5pm; daytime £2.50, child £1; evening £1, child 75p.

● Bank holiday bonfire: On the Old Beacon site, a bonfire, barbecue and entertainment. Ravenscar, North Yorkshire. Today, 6pm, meet Old Beacon Field next to the radio mast; £2.

● Maritime Sunday: Traditional seaside fun with walks, competitions, dinghy races, swimming races, tug-of-war, Punch and Judy plus a seafood stall. Eastbourne Beach, Sussex. Tomorrow 8.30am-5pm, free.

● Cabbages and kings: The Miracle Theatre Company's play about the history of the castle. Pendennis Castle, near Falmouth, Cornwall (0732 631 634). Today, tomorrow 3pm, £2.50, child £1.

● The Tudors at Kentwell: Eighty volunteers re-create domestic life in areas of the estate. Also, a rare breeds farm. Kentwell Hall, Long Melford, Suffolk (0787 310207). Today, tomorrow, Mon 11am-6pm, £4, child £2.25.

● Jazz in the Hay: Nine days and nights of traditional jazz with many popular performers including Digby Fairweather, George Chisholm, Acker Bilk and George Melly. Hay-on-Wye, Powys. Today until Sept 2 (0497 820080).

● Wimborne St Giles open village days: Vintage vehicles, marching band, craft demonstrations and stalls. Wimborne St Giles, Cranbourne, Dorset. Tomorrow, Mon from 11am, £1, child free.

● Burley country fair: Family entertainments, plus ferrier racing, ponies, clowns and bands. Burley Manor Hotel, near Ringwood, Hampshire. Tomorrow from 11am, £2.50, child £1.

● Island steam extravaganza: Steam, rail and traction vintage vehicles, arena events, folkground rides and craft market. Isle of Wight Steam Railway, Havenstreet. Today, tomorrow, Mon 10am-6pm.

● Family workshops: Expert tuition in a range of art and craft activities to suit all ages. Quarry Bank Mill, Styal, Cheshire. Tomorrow 11am-4pm, £6.50 (0625 527468).

● Crafts at Kelston Park: Live music, folk dancing, art exhibition, wine tasting and craft classes for children aged 11 and over. Kelston Park, Bath. Tomorrow, Mon 10am-5pm, £2.50, child £1.

● Rustic Revels: Silver band, stunts, children's circus, Punch and Judy, flower displays and pottery. Thrackmorton, Pershore, Worcestershire. Today 2pm to early evening, 10p.

● Oul' Lammass Fair: One of the oldest of Ireland's traditional fairs. Ballycastle, County Antrim. Tomorrow, Mon, Tues.

● Crich transport gathering: Classic cars, buses and trucks, music and family street entertainment. National Tramway Museum, Crich, near Matlock, Derbyshire (0773 852565).

● Tatton craft fair: Sales and demonstrations. Expert advice, children's entertainment, music and Morris dancing. Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire (0565 54822). Today, tomorrow, Mon 10am-6pm, £2.50, child 7-16 £1, under-7s free.

● Windsor Safari Exhibition: Chance to meet two of the three men (the third died en route) who made a 7,000-mile motorbike journey to Nairobi in aid of the Daphne Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, and to learn more about this remarkable woman. Windsor Safari Park, Windsor. Today, tomorrow, Mon, 9.30am-5.30pm. Entry to park and exhibition, £7.95, child 4-14, £5.95, under-4s free.

#### NEXT WEEK

● Embroiderers' Guild display: Items from the 17th century to the Eighties. Chestnut Museum, Bridge Street, Chippingwood, until Sept 8. Mon-Sat 10.30am-1pm, 2-5pm; Sun 2-5.30pm.

● Great Dorset steam fair: Largest collection of steam and traction engines in Britain, alongside vintage vehicles and agricultural memorabilia. Also, 150 working field horses. Steam Fair Fields, Stear, Pines, Bournemouth, Dorset. Wed-Sun, £5, child £3.

JUDY FROSHAUG

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Box Office tel: 0694 24811  
**LONDON**  
3rd, 4th, 5th & 6th Oct. Dominion Theatre.  
Box office tel: 071-580 9845,  
**DUBLIN**  
6th, 8th Oct. Point Theatre.  
Box Office tel: 0031 363633,  
**MANCHESTER**  
12th, 13th & 14th Oct. Palace Theatre.  
Box Office tel: 061-236 9222,  
**CHECHETER**  
15th Oct. Chichester Festival Theatre.  
Box Office tel: 0203 5112  
(Box office opens 17th September)  
**LINCOLN**  
17th, 18th Oct. Ritz Theatre.  
Box Office tel: 0522 845613,  
**SWINDEN**  
20th, 21st Oct. Oasic Centre.  
Box Office tel: 0793 533404,  
**BIRMINGHAM**  
22nd Oct. Birmingham Hippodrome.  
Box Office tel: 02-627 7486,  
**GUILDFORD**  
23rd Oct. Guildford Civic Hall.  
Box Office tel: 0483 444565,  
**BOURNEMOUTH**  
24th, 25th & 26th Oct. Bournemouth Int.  
Centre. Box Office tel: 0202 237 257,  
**BRISTOL**27th Oct. Bristol Hippodrome.  
Box Office tel: 0272 239444,

**CROYDON**  
29th Oct. Fairfield Hall.  
Box Office tel: 081-298 4444,  
**SCARBOROUGH**  
3rd Oct. 1st Nov. Futurstal Theatre.  
Box Office tel: 0545 578783,  
**NEWCASTLE**  
2nd Nov. 3rd Nov. New Type Theatre.  
Box Office tel: 051-222 0889.

**CARLSLE**  
7th, 8th Nov. Sands Casino.  
Box Office tel: 0228 252222,  
**BELFAST**  
9th, 10th Nov. Grand Opera House.  
Box Office tel: 0232 241919  
(Box office opens 15th October)

**BLACKPOOL**  
12m, 13th Nov. Queens Housae.  
Box Office tel: 0253 27786,  
**LALEXA**  
14th Nov. Theatres.  
Box Office tel: 0432 351158,  
**PORTRMOUTH**  
17th Nov. Gaietytel  
Box Office tel: 0705 824555,  
**DERBY**  
18th, 19th & 20th Nov Assembly Rooms  
Box Office tel: 0332 252900,  
**CARDIFFE**  
21st, 22nd & 24th Nov. Cyria Centre.  
Box Office tel: 0223 357651,  
(Box office opens 10th September),  
**LANUDANO**  
23th, 24th Nov. Arcadia Theatre:  
Box Ofice tel: 0482 1071  
(Box office opens 1st September),  
**BRADFOD**  
25th, 26th Npv. St. George's Hall.  
Box Ofice tel: 0274 752000,  
**DARTINGTON**  
**SOLD OUT**  
2nd, 3rd November:  
Box Office tel: 0325 685 655,  
**READING**  
2nd, 3rd November:  
Box Office tel: 0734 591591,  
**SHEFFIELD**  
5th, 6th Dec. City Hall  
Box Ofice tel: 0742 789205;  
**DARTFOD**  
8th Dec. The Debutant.  
Box Ofice tel: 0322 343333,

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[illegible]



## SUNDAY'S TELEVISION &amp; RADIO

COMPILED BY GILLIAN MAXEY AND ANNETTE BRUNING  
TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER RAVALLA

**8.45 Open University:** Battled by Design  
7.10 Nuclear Weapons: The View from Moscow 7.35 Cellular Growth 8.00 Synthesis in the Laboratory 8.25 Maths Methods: Preparing for the Exam. Ends 8.50

**8.55 Playdays (9.15) Umbrella:** Multi-faith children's religious programme (r)  
9.30 This is the Day: Worship in the comfort of your own home

**10.00 Film: Kim (1950)** Errol Flynn, Dean Stockwell and Paul Lukas star in a lively version of Rudyard Kipling's tale of India. A British agent posing as an Afghan horse dealer recruits Kim, a young orphan boy, to the cause. Directed by Victor Saville

**11.50 Tom and Jerry Double Bill (r)**  
12.05 Sign Extra: A chance to see an edition of *Take Nobody's Word for It*, with sign language and subtitles

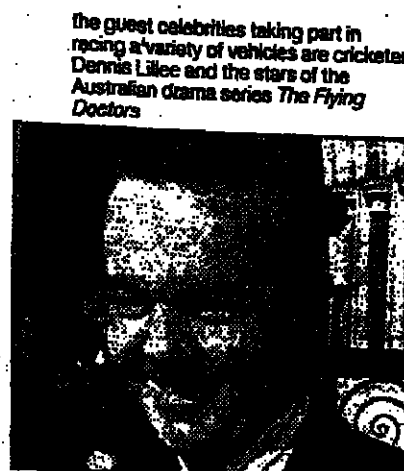
**12.30 Country File:** Anne Brown reports on the response from people who live and/or work in the country to viewers' letters about the effects of pesticides on their health

**1.00 News with Moira Stuart:** Followed by Speaking Volumes. P.D. James is joined by Candia McWilliam, Allan Massie and Grant Morris to discuss Michael Frayn's first novel for 16 years, *The Trick of It*

**1.45 The Pink Panther Show (r)** 2.00-2.55 *Enders (r)* (Ceebs)

**3.00 Film: High Sierra (1938)**  
The part of Indiana Jones gone to Harrison Ford, Tom Selleck controlled himself with the not dissimilar role of an alcoholic ex-flying ace enlisted by an American heiress to track down her missing father. The result was a fast-paced period adventure strictly for a rainy day. Directed by Brian G. Hutton. (Ceebs)

**4.40 Tom and Jerry Double Bill:** More cartoon fun (r)  
4.55 *Driving Force:* Down Under Murray Walker and Sybil Ruesca present the annual pre-celebrity driving competition from Perth, Western Australia, in which four teams compete for the Dunlop Trophy. Among



In search of cartoons: Ian Hislop (8.55pm)

**5.55 The Great Picture Chase:**  
CHOICE: Given the task of spending £500 to augment the BBC art collection, Ian Hislop, editor of *Private Eye*, goes in search of a cartoon. His film is instructive on current asking prices (£450 for a Ronald Searle, £250 for a Gifford, £250 for a single John Leary) and reputations, with Searle being the most sought after. Hislop is also looking for a cartoon to illustrate the book *The Great Picture Chase* by the same author. The book is a collection of cartoons from the 19th century, including a typically scathing view of Mrs Thatcher by Searle. The least flattering view of his trade comes from Nick Newman. "Most of the stuff we do is parody," he says. "Curiously, perhaps, Hislop omits to mention two of the century's greatest cartoonists, Low and Vicki. I would have thought there could be more appropriate candidates for a BBC art gallery than Low's brilliant caricature of the imperious Lord Rotherham. Perhaps the corporation has already decided on a different approach." (Ceebs)

**6.25 News with Moira Stuart:** Weather  
6.40 *Songs of Praise:* Double Theme introduces people and hymns from the Sussex seaside town of Hastings. (Ceebs)

**7.15 Rough Guide to the World:** Budapest Magenta de Vine and Sarika Guth discover a western culture of credit cards and pornography (r)

**8.05 Baller and the Glory Boys:**  
CHOICE: This location report from Memphis, Tennessee, David Puttnam's new film about an American bomber crew in the second world war, could easily have fitted into a Barry Norman cinema slot except that the producer, Brian Lewis, has been able to call upon two additional elements. One is a re-run of the original crew, who visit the set, meet their acting counterparts and let us know what hell they went through. The other is the inspiration for Puttnam's film, a documentary made by William Wyler in 1943 about the first crew to complete 25 missions. Wyler's daughter Catherine worked with Puttnam on the fictional version. Fact and fiction collide as an aircraft used for the filming crashes into a field and suddenly brings home to everyone that they are not playing with sticks. The clips from Wyler's film are interspersed with the new footage you want to see the whole thing

**8.50 Joseph Campbell and the Power of Myth: Love and the Goddess.** The American scholar talks to Bill Moyers about whether ideas of romantic love and women have changed over the centuries. (Ceebs)

**7.15 Ever Decreasing Circles:** Another opportunity to see the Christmas edition of the Esmond-Larby comedy of suburban manners. Starring Richard Briers, Penelope Wilton and Peter Egan (r)

**8.35 Film: Phantom of the Opera (1989)** starring Charles Dance, Burt Lancaster and Toni Polk. The second and concluding part of director Tony Richardson's lavish remake of Gaston Leroux's classic tale. Jealous Carlotta sabotages Christine's debut performance, sending the Phantom on an orgy of violence and destruction. (Ceebs)

**10.10 News with Michael Buerk:** Weather  
10.25 *CHOICE: A Life on Trial.* Here is a juicy moral issue if ever there was one. Richard Ford is a former Los Angeles detective found guilty of a raft of crimes including armed robbery, contract murder and the attempted murder of a prostitute involving sexual assault and sadism. The jury that has convicted him must separately decide on his sentence. Life imprisonment or the gas chamber. Enter Casey Cohen, a private investigator who is passionately opposed to the death penalty and has made a specialty of trying to save the lives of some of America's most brutal murderers. But Richard Ford is a challenge even for Cohen. He insists it by digging back into Ford's troubled childhood, the delayed traumatic stress from fighting in Vietnam, the horrific rape of his wife. The prosecution remains unflinched. It is a battle one for the jury and compelling television from start to finish. (Ceebs)

**11.05 The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd:** Blair Brown plays the real-life Dodd who is a specialist at getting into sticky situations. She is a 1922 You and Me. What effect will 1992 have on our national identity and sovereignty? Wales: The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd. 11.55-12.30am You and Me  
12.05am *The Sky at Night:* 12.25 *Manabharat* (r). Wales: 12.30-1.10 *Manabharat* 1.05 Weather

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Matthew Modine, Robert Morgan (8.05pm)

**9.30 Belgian Grand Prix:** Highlights of this afternoon's racing from Spa  
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## TV LONDON

**6.00 TV-am**  
6.25 *Disney Family Movie: Little Spies* (1988) The conclusion of the fast-moving doggie story starring Mickey Rooney, Peter Smith and Sarah Jo Mann. Will James the hermit and his band of little spies be in time to rescue Madge the doggie from the Pappy Love Kennel? Directed by Greg Beaman

**10.15 The Campbells: The Firebrand:** Drama series featuring a family living in the Canadian wilds during the late 19th century

**10.45 Link:** Members of the House of Commons are constantly making decisions regarding employment, benefits, housing and education which have a significant impact on the lives of disabled people. But are MPs aware of the effects of their legislation, and do they know enough about disability? Peter White talks to two who are assigned to evaluate Lucy the elephant from Munich Zoo to relative safety in Australia. Forced to make the journey on foot, Brooks turns the trip into a daring escape plan and heads instead for the sanctuary of Switzerland. A watchable mixture of action and comedy, directed by Michael Winner

**6.00 All Cued Up:** Word game  
6.30 *News with Sue Carpenter:* Weather  
6.35 *LWT News and weather*  
6.40 *Appeal:* Michael Bentham appeals on behalf of the Reach for the Sky RAF benevolent fund

**6.45 Day Out with Dana: Blackpool:** Dana discovers the carny side to the Lancashire seaside resort, and is joined by the comedian Bobby Ball, who shares his faith with the singer

**7.15 Jimmy's Real-He drama:** From Europe's largest teaching hospital, St James's in Leeds

**11.00 Morning Worship from St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church in County Antrim's Loughguile**  
12.00 *Hearland: The Ultimate Project:* Nick Ser, chairman of the Spiritual Assembly of Bani and Buchanan Bani, describes the concepts of his faith

**12.30 The Care Bears:** Cartoon adventure  
12.55 *LWT News and weather*

## CHANNEL 4

**6.00 Transworld Sport (r)**  
7.00 *Guitarist: Prelude:* Classical guitarist Julian Bream traces the evolution of the Spanish guitar over five centuries. He begins by watching the instrument being constructed in workshops in Cordoba

**7.30 Once upon a Time... Life:** Cartoon journey through the human body, its organs and cells 8.00 *Early Bird* 8.25 *David the Gnome* 8.55 *Ramona:* Dramatisation of Beverly Cleary's books about a mischievous eight-year-old girl

**9.25 Band Baja:** Asian music from some of the best young exponents  
10.00 *Japan: A Proper Place in the World:* Series which offers a British view of Japan. This final programme examines Japan's influence on the world stage during the 20th century and looks to the future (r)

**11.00 Storywheel:** For both deaf and hearing children (r)  
11.30 *Ely and Jo:* Pursuing a common goal, ghost Ely and 13-year-old Joie share numerous adventures 12.00 *The Watsons 1.00 Land of the Giants:* Cult science-fiction series

**2.00 Film: The Sleeping Tiger (1954, b/w):**  
CHOICE: Contemporary filmgoers are puzzled over the credits for *The Sleeping Tiger* were not to know that they concealed the identities of two distinguished Americans who had fled to Britain after being blacklisted by Hollywood in the wake of the McCarthy witchhunt. The director billed as Victor Hanbury was Joseph Losey, while the screenplay was attributed to Derek Frye, alias Carl (High Noon) Foreman. The film started a collaboration between Losey and Dirk Bogarde which was to blossom later in *The Servant*, *King and Country* and *Accident*. Here, Bogarde

**3.40 *Mog:*** Mishaps abound for the myopic cartoon character  
3.55 *The Phantom of the Opera:* The Phantom Quartet performs two pieces by Laos Janáček at the Festsaal at the University of Prague. They are the *Singing Quartet No 1*, also known as *The Kruztzer Sonata*, and *Singing Quartet No 2*, popularly known as *Intimate Pages*

**4.55 The Nat King Cole Show (b/w):** In the last show in the Fifties television series featuring the singing and piano-playing of Nat King Cole, he is joined by the Mills Brothers

**5.25 News summary and weather**  
5.30 *Little Gardeners in Black Velvet:* Richard Evers narrates a documentary about the mole, one of Britain's commonest but least-known animals. Every mole hates every other mole, and will fight to the death upon a chance encounter, but the burrowing creature's worst enemy is man (r)

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An occasion when Split times matter less to the athletes in search of peak condition than the best opponents in Europe

# The magic of a major championship

Even for a "dead" athlete like me, that tingle is back in the air this week. A major athletics championship is about to open. The fair is coming to town. Another global village is being set up for a few days, this time in Split, Yugoslavia.

These European championships occur in the midst of the annual grand prix circuit, the athletes' regular European tour. Now the grand prix circuit is wonderful, one of the great events and traditions in world sport. One day, I plan a television series and book called *The Grand Tour*, looking at the modern circuit round the athletic stadiums of Europe and comparing the athletes' impressions with those of our forefathers, who made the same tour a century or more ago. Yet with such a circuit, why are the championships so special?

Last week, I was in Zurich for the classic Weltklasse meeting, the

epicentre of the grand prix movement. The organisers were giving me a nice award (they, too, had noticed I was retired). Soaking up the marvellous atmosphere again, I started to look forward to Split: so I reflected on this question of difference.

For me, and I think for most athletes of this or any other generation, major championships are what the sport is about. Records come and go, but medals are here to stay. Those winners remain in the record books — not only the official ones, but also those vital unofficial ones in people's memories.

In championships like these, every reputation is on the line. How you have performed in the past, how good your personal best was this year or last, and even what the bookies and selectors think, now count for nothing — except, of course, that any or all of those things may represent invaluable experience, and in the heat of



## COMMENT

SEBASTIAN COE

battle, experience, like fast times, can be money in the athlete's bank. Best of all, experience may assist confidence and confidence can be all.

Championships are about "peaking", the art of achieving your best when your best is needed. Most European athletes will have planned their season around next week. Their greatest fear is last-minute illness or injury, which, in their condition and circumstances, need only be slight. As I know by my cost, this is one heck of a time to catch a cold — or to catch someone's leg in an inside lane.

There are two other ingredients

in nine days, "another day at the office".

Against that background, what are the special features of these European championships? Some we cannot forecast, because every such event has its unexpected side. Championships develop a momentum and quality of their own, dependent upon factors like the competitors' comfort, the team spirit (or lack of it), the weather, the food, and the track and field conditions.

There is certainly going to be a German factor. This is likely to be the last important appearance for an East German team before the country unifies with the West. East Germany's record in the last 20 years is an amazing one. I am sure they will perform well here too, because each member of the team will want to win one of the last East German medals, and also they will want to stake claims for

places in a future all-German athletic team.

However, already times have changed. In Zurich last week, it was strange to see East German athletes chasing grand prix points and dollars so soon before a major championship. We are used to their being in virtual hiding at such a time (their own national championships were always behind closed doors). The questions next week are about their famous discipline and team spirit — will these be the same?

People are often surprised when I talk about team spirit in an individual sport like track and field. But it is a vital factor — never better illustrated, perhaps, than in Stuttgart four years ago, when one British success led to another and we all encouraged each other to such great effect.

For this British team, that is a hard act to follow. In 1986, British men won most of the European

track gold medals. We had real bonus performances at 400 and 5,000 metres.

Yet this 1990 team has every reason to be confident. They have a "track record": they have class performers in many events, and they have experienced men and women (including many from Stuttgart) who can set the right winning example.

I look forward to watching the old and the new and their different reactions to the stress of top competition. The Cramers, the Sandersons and the Blacks, for example, are now trying to repeat success. For Peter Elliott and Tom McKean, there is the new experience of being favourites. Among the new faces there might be a Paul Gascoigne, treating the summit of their sport like the opportunity they have been waiting for all their lives — which, of course, it is. Steve Backley, that great new force in the field events, looks to be of this special breed.

## East Germany's farewell may end as a British party



WHEN the European championships unfold in Split next week three countries will dominate, one for the last time. The book on East Germany's faded record is about to be closed. From next year there will be only one German team, uniting East and West. If East Germany's valiant bid to be said from on top of the medals table, the Soviet Union and Britain will make sure they get there the hard way.

Britain's best European championships was the last one, in 1986, when they won eight gold medals. On each day, from the first on Monday to the last on Saturday, there will be at least one GAZA out there with a genuine chance of making his country proud. His country rather than *his*. British women tend to play with their feet on the ball instead of going for goal.

"It looks like we are going to have our best European championships," Linford Christie said. Courtesy prevented him from adding "thanks to the men". There are 14 events, out of 43, in which Britain have gold medal chances. In ten the chances are good. If there was a champions' ball, like they have at Wimbledon, Yvonne Murray

four British women who may win silver or bronze compared with several men — said: "In Britain we are very easily satisfied. Our women have got to be a lot more professional. They require more management of their time and training."

British optimism is high despite the absence of four of the seven individual event winners from Stuttgart in 1986. Furthermore, another winner then, Steve Cram, defends his 1,500 metres title on this evidence that he can succeed: injuries and illness have restricted his appearances and only once, when he ran 3min 35.98sec, has he performed in accordance with his reputation.

Jack Buckner (5,000 metres), Daley Thompson (decathlon) and Whitbread have been prevented by injury from defending and Sebastian Coe (800 metres) has retired, leaving only Christie and Black. Coe led McKean and Cram to a memorable 1-2-3 in Stuttgart and, while a medal sweep is always improbable, there are three events in which Britain can hope: in the 200 metres (Christie, Christie, Marcus Adam), 800 metres (McKean, David Sharpe, Matthew Yates) and 1,500 metres (Elliott, Cram, Neil Horsfield).

Horsfield, who has im-

proved his best to 3min 35.08sec, is due some luck. He won impressively in both the Parrelforce Games and the AAA championships, but both victories were overshadowed: the first because Backley simultaneously set a javelin world record, the second because interest centred on Tony Morrell's infield histrionics. "My target is to run out of my skin and get a medal," Horsfield said.

On a wider theme, three athletes have chances of two individual gold medals: Katrin Krabbe, of East Germany (100 and 200 metres), Salvatore Antibo, of Italy (5,000 and 10,000 metres), and Christie (100 and 200 metres). Krabbe and Antibo are more likely double winners than Christie.

The East Germans and Soviets each have a dozen or so gold medal favourites. German preparation has not been as it used to be: the national championships were adversely affected by athletes, no longer supported by the state, using the grand prix to make up lost income.

But failure in Split resulting from tired limbs could prove expensive. "By being European champion you will earn more from your nights at places like Zurich, Oslo and Crystal Palace," Elliott said.



Gold medal banker: Linford Christie predicts an outstandingly successful European championships for Britain

## FORM GUIDE TO THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS AND SEVEN OVERSEAS ATHLETES TO WATCH

The guide shows the world, European and UK records and reigning champions followed by the best 1990 performances by Europeans, plus performers by other British athletes, marked by an asterisk will not be in that event in Split.

### Men

100 metres  
WR: C Lewis (USA), 9.92 sec, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 10.00 sec, 1988. 1988 champion: C Lewis (USA).

200 metres  
WR: P Merrett (GB), 19.72 sec, Mexico City, 1975. BR: UK, 20.00 sec, 1988. 1988 champion: P Merrett (GB).

400 metres  
WR: H Reynolds (USA), 43.29 sec, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 44.00 sec, 1988. 1988 champion: H Reynolds (USA).

800 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 1:41.73, Florence, 1981. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).

1,500 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 3:50.56, Rome, 1987. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).

5,000 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 14:17.73, Florence, 1981. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).

10,000 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 29:57.46, Rome, 1987. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).

20,000 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 59:57.46, Rome, 1987. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).

30,000 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 1:39:57.46, Rome, 1987. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).

40,000 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 2:19:57.46, Rome, 1987. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).

50,000 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 3:19:57.46, Rome, 1987. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).



**SALVATORE ANTIBO** (Italy, age 28)

Attempting to become first 5,000 and 10,000 metres double winner since Juhani Jaakkola in 1971, has won his fastest times this year in both (13min 55.59sec and 27min 25.16sec) at the 1990 European Championships in Stuttgart.

Long jump  
WR: J Fosbury (USA), 6.90m, Mexico City, 1968. BR: UK, 6.86m, 1988. 1988 champion: J Fosbury (USA).

Hammer  
WR: Y Sedukh (USSR), 80.74m, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 77.54m, 1988. 1988 champion: Y Sedukh (USSR).

Triple jump  
WR: W Benoit (USA), 17.87m, Indianapolis, 1985. BR: UK, 17.82m, 1988. 1988 champion: W Benoit (USA).

Javelin  
WR: S Backley (GB), 66.26m, London, 1988. BR: UK, 66.26m, 1988. 1988 champion: S Backley (GB).

Shot  
WR: R Barnes (USA), 22.12m, San Jose, 1980. BR: UK, 22.12m, 1988. 1988 champion: R Barnes (USA).

Discus  
WR: J Schiek (DDR), 74.08m, Neubrandenburg, 1988. BR: UK, 74.08m, 1988. 1988 champion: J Schiek (DDR).

100 metres  
WR: C Lewis (USA), 9.92 sec, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 10.00 sec, 1988. 1988 champion: C Lewis (USA).

200 metres  
WR: P Merrett (GB), 19.72 sec, Mexico City, 1975. BR: UK, 20.00 sec, 1988. 1988 champion: P Merrett (GB).

400 metres  
WR: H Reynolds (USA), 43.29 sec, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 44.00 sec, 1988. 1988 champion: H Reynolds (USA).



**KATRIN KRABBE** (East Germany, age 20)

Out of the East German sprint mould which produced Christine Wachtel, but is a more occasion performer, as seen in Zurich last week (10.95sec and 22.13sec) by a European this year going for the double; after Marielene Ottey, of Jamaica, there has been none finer in either sprint this year.

Decathlon  
WR: W Morrell (GB), 8,647 pts, Los Angeles, 1984. BR: UK, 8,647 pts, 1988. 1988 champion: W Morrell (GB).

20km walk  
WR: A Parlow (USSR), 1:19:18, Moscow, 1988. BR: UK, 1:19:18, 1988. 1988 champion: A Parlow (USSR).

50k walk  
WR: A Parlow (USSR), 3:37:41, Moscow, 1988. BR: UK, 3:37:41, 1988. 1988 champion: A Parlow (USSR).

100 metres  
WR: C Lewis (USA), 9.92 sec, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 10.00 sec, 1988. 1988 champion: C Lewis (USA).

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5,000 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 14:17.73, Florence, 1981. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).



**GELINDO BORDIN** (Italy, age 31)

European and Olympic marathon champion, and world No. 1 spot ahead of Douglas Wakihara, of Kenya, especially after his Boston, 1989, victory in 2hr 08min 18sec in April for a career smoker whose running career was almost ended by a car crash.

4 x 100m relay  
WR: United States, 3:08.33, Los Angeles, 1984. BR: UK, 3:08.33, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.

4 x 400m relay  
WR: United States, 3:56.16, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 3:56.16, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.

4 x 1,000m relay  
WR: United States, 12:00.00, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 12:00.00, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.

4 x 1,500m relay  
WR: United States, 17:00.00, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 17:00.00, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.

4 x 2,000m relay  
WR: United States, 22:00.00, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 22:00.00, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.

4 x 2,500m relay  
WR: United States, 27:00.00, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 27:00.00, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.

4 x 3,000m relay  
WR: United States, 32:00.00, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 32:00.00, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.

4 x 3,500m relay  
WR: United States, 37:00.00, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 37:00.00, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.

4 x 4,000m relay  
WR: United States, 42:00.00, Seoul, 1988. BR: UK, 42:00.00, 1988. 1988 champion: United States.



**PETRA FELKE** (East Germany, age 31)

World javelin record holder whose greatest rival, Fatima Whitbread, is injured; has not been at her best this season with throws mostly between 68 and 71 metres; a surprising defeat suffered at the hands of her compatriot, Karin Forst, in July should guard her against complacency.

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30,000 metres  
WR: S Coe (GB), 1:39:57.46, Rome, 1987. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).



**SORIN MATEI** (Romania, age 27)

World No. 1 high jumper this year; became only sixth man to clear 2.40 metres, despite being one of the world's smallest jumpers, at only 6ft 0in; has never figured in several attempts at outdoor championships, his best so far being a European indoor bronze medal.

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WR: S Coe (GB), 1:39:57.46, Rome, 1987. 1988 champion: S Coe (GB).



**ROSA MOTA** (Portugal, age 32)

Olympic marathon champion going for her third successive European championship win; was chosen for 5,000 metres in 1982 but argued to be selected for the marathon; was told she must run the 5,000 metres first finished fourth and then won the marathon.

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**J. H. SCHIEK** (DDR, age 32)

World No. 1 shot putter this year; became only sixth man to clear 2.40 metres, despite being one of the world's smallest jumpers, at only 6ft 0in; has never figured in several attempts at outdoor championships, his best so far being a European indoor bronze medal.

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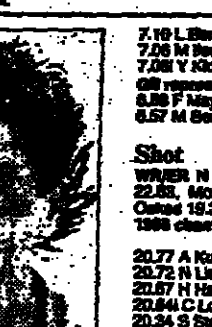
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Their two summer acquisitions are expected to help make Chelsea a power in the first division this season

# Wise brings a new balance

## Sweeping changes that will follow World Cup

By CLIVE WHITE

WE WERE last able to talk seriously of Chelsea as championship contenders 20 years ago. Even in the spellbinding days of Peter Osgood and his fellow scorers, the football was more conducive to capturing the imagination of crowds than it was League points.

Living under the perpetual threat of eviction from Stamford Bridge in recent years and since the 1960s for ever moving home between the first and second divisions, Chelsea have found it hard enough to establish their position as first division residents never mind think earnestly about winning titles.

Then, in January of last year, midway through another season spent regaining first division status, they laid the foundation stone of something more lasting when they bought Dave Beasant, the England No. 3 goalkeeper, back to London for a club record fee of £725,000. It made the rest of football sit up and take notice.

If last season was supposed to be one of consolidation they did not do a bad job by finishing fifth, after leading the first division at one stage. Bobby Campbell, who took over from John Hollins as manager 2½ years ago, is more of a pragmatist than some of his predecessors at the Bridge and appreciates that now, more than ever, it requires muscle as well as brain to succeed in the English first division — or as his favourite equation has it: quality + effort = success.

This summer Campbell made two further important signings which gives the team an altogether more imposing look that should worry even the likes of Liverpool.

"Paper teams never win anything," Campbell said, but no one in their right mind would describe Dennis Wise (£1.6 million from Wimbledon) and Andy Townsend (£1.2 million from Norwich City) as paper tigers.

Both players are renowned for their fierce competitiveness and represent the most formidable pair of pre-season signings made by an English club since Liverpool bought Barnes and Beardsley three summers ago.

"Wise is a fighter. He can get up and down the pitch, he is little, he is quick, he is brave, he is dirty and he's the best crosser in the country," Campbell said. "A midfield player needs to be able to tackle, pass, support and score, but we can do all of that. Even Robbo couldn't. He couldn't pass. But Townsend can."



Management team: Bobby Campbell (left) and his assistant, Gwyn Williams, have high hopes for the season

Kerry Dixon may soon have reason to be more appreciative of their qualities than even Campbell. "They should give Chelsea that extra fighting spirit we badly needed and should make us a good side to watch," Dixon said. It is five years since Dixon won the last of his three consecutive Golden Boot awards for his scoring feats. But he is not alone in realising his opportunities this season. The bookmakers have made him 12-1 fourth favourite, behind Linaker, Rush and Kosenkhal, to finish as the division's leading goalscorer.

"The awful Wise, whom Campbell considers an even better crosser than Nigel Callaghan, could provide Dixon with the short of service he has not enjoyed since Nevin acted as his magical

provider. "Par's probably more skilful than Dennis but Dennis is much more tenacious and more of a battler. He is not going to let you down," Campbell said.

Durie is another who should benefit from the arrival of the new pair in midfield provided he is around to do so. His persistent groin problem reappeared during Chelsea's successful pre-season — they were unbeaten in nine games — but Campbell is optimistic that when he returns in "a matter of days rather than weeks" the groin may be less tight than it has been.

Despite the presence of Beasant, the defence remains, if not a problem, an area of some uncertainty. Concerned with its security even before a ball had been kicked in the

first division last season, Campbell adopted a sweeper system that swept almost all before it before suddenly springing more leaks than a colander because of injuries and the poor form of its principal player, Roberts. Had it not been for that, Chelsea would surely have climbed even higher than fifth.

Having dispensed with the sweeper system, Campbell is unlikely to reintroduce it for this term. "The English player doesn't have the discipline to do it in a man-marking system like the Continentals. He thinks he's better than he is and too good just to be asked to mark a player. He'll do the job well, maybe for 90 per cent of the time, and then leave his man free at a vital moment. I've only known three Englishmen who had the ability to do it, one of whom — Peter Storey — I taught myself when I was coach at Arsenal. The others were Nobby Stiles and Paul Parker, who's the best in the country at it now. Total concentration is a gift from God," he said.

But despite Campbell's obvious preference for players with some grit in their souls, it would be wrong to assume that he has no time for the game's artists. The next in line on his summer shopping list was Gary McAllister, who chose instead to transfer his nimble skills from Leicester City to Leeds United. And Campbell, determined to bring back some charisma to the Bridge, still harbours an ambition to sign Hoddle if and when the player proves his fitness.

Wright, his choice to fill the role, had acted as a sweeper before on only three occasions for Derby County. Although he had been a member of the system introduced when he was at Southampton, he was picked as one of the two markers. Lawrie McMenemy preferred Reuben Agboola as the free defender.

Wright, although almost a complete stranger to the position, was voted as the best defender in the World Cup after the first round. A jewel was unearthed, but to sparkle he required the right components around him, which is why there can be no guarantee that even Derby will necessarily choose to play with a sweeper.

### STUART JONES

The pair of markers must adhere rigidly to their duties rather than follow the custom of covering each other. The full backs must also be creative but they are not such a rare species. Trevor Steven and Tony Dorico, for example, might have been more productive choices during the World Cup than Parker and Pearce.

Those who question the merits of the system might have been convinced by the evidence during June and July. Compare England's opening World Cup tie, against the Republic of Ireland, appreciably the least distinguished game of the whole tournament, and the subsequent performances against the Dutch, the Belgians and the Germans: those three matches were enriched by variation, finesse and purpose. England, long renowned for heart and stamina, were considered by the most respected of observers as the revelation of the World Cup.

Nobody had imagined that they could adopt continental ways so rapidly and so comfortably.

Managers have experimented with a sweeper in the first division. George Graham did so at Arsenal in the closing weeks of the 1989 season, an inspired decision which won him the championship. Graham Taylor, significantly, did so last season with Aston Villa, who were Liverpool's lone challengers.

Trevor Francis, having seen the benefits for himself while he was playing in the Italian League, illustrated that a relatively small club like Queen's Park Rangers could compete quite well with the method before he left Loftus Road towards the end of last season. Sides do not need to seek safety by indulging in the long-ball game, a thoroughly tedious alternative which was growing disturbingly prevalent.

The promotion of two more exponents from the second division, Leeds United and Sheffield United, indicated that even more first division fixtures would feature the limited, the unimaginative and the incompetent.

Watford, almost claimed the title seven years ago with the simplest of tactics. He now appreciates the value of the more sophisticated style, as was evident last season, and his appointment as the England manager is to be welcomed. He can build on the foundation and the example set so conveniently for him by Robson. In some areas, Taylor can lead the way.

The level of mistrust within the game has sunk to a damagingly unhealthy level, as was manifested during the World Cup by the ludicrous cold war between the England squad and the media. Both parties were, and are, guilty of irresponsible behaviour which borders on the offensive.

Players, and indeed managers (guided invariably by their shadowy and sometimes sinister agents), are financially induced to be provocative and sensational in print. Yet they either sulk or are ascerbic whenever they are bitten by the hand from which they freely choose to feed.

The media, in turn, willingly keeps the vicious circle going for its own perverse interests. Since Taylor's father was a journalist and he himself has practised the craft (most recently for *The Times* during the World Cup), he recognises the demands on both sides. He could act as an influential mediator.

He intends to close another divisive gap, between club and country, by paying regular visits to established and prospective internationals. With Lawrie McMenemy at his side, Taylor promises to repair the broken lines of communication and, it is to be hoped, to restore a much-needed sense of fun.

There are serious issues. Grounds and especially facilities still require renovation, transfer fees are again rising to absurd heights, the forthcoming freedom of movement within the European Community could pose confusing problems, hooliganism cannot yet be considered to be fully under control, and some misguided people want to increase the size of the first division.

But the game itself was lifted onto a launch pad during the summer and, with careful and enterprising management, it could take off this season. Those who are involved in the game should feel they have a duty not only to protect its health but actively to promote it.

### FACTS AND FIGURES

**Managerial changes**  
ENGLAND: Graham Taylor, formerly with Aston Villa, replaces Bobby Robson, now with PSV.  
FIRST DIVISION: Aston Villa, Joeef Venglos (formerly manager of the Czech Republic), replaces Graham Taylor. Wimbledon, Ray Harford (formerly manager of Bolton), replaces John Lyall.  
SECOND DIVISION: Ipswich Town, John Lyall (replaces John Duncan), Watford, Colin Lee (replaces, replaces Steve Harford).  
THIRD DIVISION: Brentford, Replacement for Steve Harford to be decided. Fulham, Alan Dicks (replaces Ray Lewington, now coach).  
FOURTH DIVISION: Blackpool, Graham Carr (replaces Jimmy Mullin), Hereford United, Colin Addison (replaces Ian Bowyer), Lincoln City, Alan Dicks (replaces Colin Murphy), Northampton Town, Theo Foley (replaces Alan Carr), now with Blackpool, Walsley, Kerry Hobbs (replaces John Barnwell).

**Ground changes**  
Two Football League clubs have changed grounds since the end of last season. In the first division, Tottenham Hotspur have moved from White Hart Lane to the new Tottenham Stadium (capacity 12,000).  
Chester City, the third division club, have moved from the old ground to a new stadium at Neston, Cheshire. They have sold up at Sealand Road and moved in with Macclesfield Town. The new stadium is constructed in the Moss Rose ground, for two seasons while the new stadium is constructed in the Chesterfield will mean a 90-mile round trip for Chester supporters.

**Other changes**  
NEW SPONSORS FOR LEAGUE CUP: Rumblewies, the electrical appliance firm, become the third sponsor of the League Cup, with a £2 million investment over four seasons. The competition was first sponsored by the British Cup from 1982 to 1987 and the Littlewoods Cup from 1987 to 1990.  
RETURN TO EUROPE: After an absence of five years following the troubles at the stadium, European clubs are re-admitted to European competition this season. Manchester United, Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur, Chelsea and Aston Villa in the UEFA Cup.

### Season's receipts up £15m

GATE receipts from Barclays League matches last season reached record levels, with the 1,036 regular season games generating income of £87.2 million, up nearly £15 million on the previous campaign's total.

Attendances this season are expected to pass the 20 million mark, despite the cut in ground capacities following the Taylor Report.

● Hibernian have offered Alex Miller, their manager, an extension to his contract. Jim Gray, the chief executive of the Edinburgh club, refused to divulge the length of the contract, but stressed that it was for a minimum of two years.

● Scarborough have rejected Notts County's £240,000 bid for Chris Short, their right back.

● Halifax Town have signed Alan Platt, the Leigh forward, aged 27, for an undisclosed fee.

● John Sheffield, the Norwich City reserve goalkeeper, has joined Aldershot on loan. Sheffield, aged 21, spent the final three months of last season with the fourth-division side.

### Aston Villa's brave gamble on Venglos is put to the test

By LOUISE TAYLOR

HE FRANKLY admits his appointment is a "risk", but Joeef Venglos, the new manager of Aston Villa, is still smiling. As befits a doctor of philosophy, Venglos was stoical when faced with the first of many media post mortems after his team's two defeats in the pre-season Maktia tournament at Wembley a fortnight ago.

"Of course appointing me was a gamble; it might not work," he said. If it does, naming the manager of the Czechoslovakian World Cup team to succeed Graham Taylor at Villa Park will seem like a master stroke on the part of Doug Ellis, the Villa chairman. If it does not, and Venglos fails, Ellis knows his appointment will be condemned as rash.

Nevertheless, it was time that someone was bold enough to do what plenty have advocated, but never actually dared do, and appoint a leading foreign coach to manage an English first division club.

Villa may have finished runners-up in the League last season, but in terms of quality they were a poor second to Liverpool, and Venglos will do well to maintain the momentum. His task starts at home with today's visit from Southampton, who contribute

### Geoffrey Green

The memorial service for Geoffrey Green, former football correspondent of *The Times*, will be at St Bride's, Fleet Street, London EC4, on Thursday, September 6 (noon).

### Today's team news

**First division**  
**A Villa v Southampton**  
Ole Gunnar Solskjaer in the Villa attack. Gotsmanov, Southampton's new signing from Brighton, is included in the squad. Cherednik starts at right back.  
**Chelsea v Derby**  
Chelsea are without Durie (groin), Townsend, and the Czechoslovakian striker, who is injured. McCall starts in the defence. Luke, who has been in the Chelsea squad since his arrival from Manchester City, starts in the defence. Luke, who has been in the Chelsea squad since his arrival from Manchester City, starts in the defence. Luke, who has been in the Chelsea squad since his arrival from Manchester City, starts in the defence.  
**Leeds v Luton**  
McDonald and Hughes replace the departed Wilson and Kennedy in midfield for Luton. Palace are without Bright (hamstring) and Thompson (suspended), so Wright and Salako start. Young, Humphrey and Hodges make their debuts.  
**Man Utd v Coventry**  
Webb is fit to return to midfield, but Wallace (knee) is missing for the first time since his late fitness test for Coventry — Dobson stands by. Regis competes for a seat on the substitutes bench with Livingstone and MacDonald.

### Second division

**Charlton v Swindon**  
Crackie is expected to start in the attack for Charlton, who also field Webster and Balmer, their close-season buys. Swindon are without White (back), McLoughlin faces a fitness test.

### Norwich v Sunderland

Blades, bought from Derby, makes his debut in central defence for Norwich, as does a newly-arrived from Tottenham, at full back. Sunderland prefer McPhail to Ball, their close-season buy from Portsmouth.

### Not in Forest v QPR

Parce (hamstring) is doubtful for Forest. Crossley replaces Sutton in goal, and Carr, who is unsettled, starts. Parker (hernia operation) is missing for Rangers, for whom Wilson, a recent arrival from Chelsea, starts a new chapter in his career.

Battle lines for Belgium grand prix drawn up as Marlboro-McLaren and Ferrari drivers take four leading grid positions

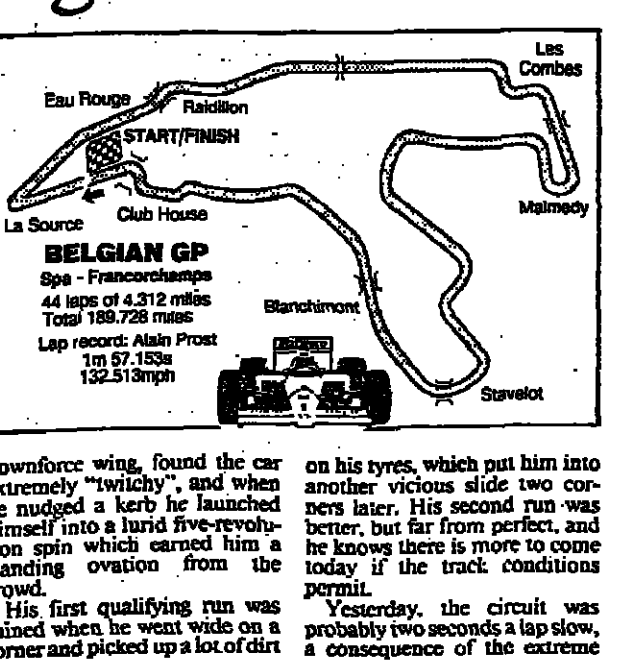
## Qualifying misfortunes send Mansell into a spin

By JOHN BLUNSDEN

THE Belgian grand prix is shaping into a fight between the Marlboro-McLaren and Ferrari teams with their four drivers heading the line and the slowest of them more than a second clear of the fifth car, the Benetton-Ford of Nelson Piquet.

Although Gerhard Berger put in an almost immaculate lap in his Honda-powered McLaren to claim the provisional pole position, Alain Prost stepped in on behalf of Ferrari with a typically polished performance to split the two McLarens. Ayrton Senna was not content with his third position in the overnight line-up, a full second slower than his team partner because of too much understeer, but Nigel Mansell was far from downhearted to end the day fourth quickest after a series of misadventures.

In the preliminary session he experimented with a low-



downforce wing, found the car extremely "twicky", and when he nudged a kerb he launched into a lurid five-revolution spin which earned him a standing ovation from the crowd.

His first qualifying run was ruined when he went wide on a corner and picked up a lot of dirt

on his tyres, which put him into another vicious slide two corners later. His second run was better, but far from perfect, and he knows there is more to come today if the track conditions permit.

Yesterday, the circuit was probably two seconds a lap slower, a consequence of the extreme

heat and a lower level of grip than has previously been experienced here in the dry. However, it failed to prevent McLaren from taking the daunting Eau Rouge bend in sixth gear. "I did it just once, and I can't honestly say I liked it," he said.

Jean Alesi did likewise in his Tyrrell-Ford and it helped him into an impressive seventh place despite his lack of horsepower, but Derek Warwick and Martin Donnelly had a frustrating time with their Camel Lotus-Lamborghini. The Warwick car has a stiffer chassis, which it was hoped would overcome some of its handling problems, but the reverse seems to have been the case and he is having a testing time trying to set up a competitive race.

Donnelly, whose car lost a rear wheel in the preliminary practice when its mounting nut fractured, had to sit out most of the session before he could get to grips with the circuit and he completed only about eight flying laps. Donnelly's detached

wheel nearly caused an accident when it headed for Senna, who had just spun his McLaren.

Alessandro Nannini should improve substantially on his thirteenth position on the grid today, having ruined his first set of qualifying tyres when he locked up his wheels at the first corner, and not being able to use

his second set effectively because of traffic.

The weather forecast suggests the race tomorrow will be one of the hottest Belgian grands prix on record, but whether the battle for the lead will be as heated is another matter. McLaren and Ferrari seem to have things well under control.

**DETAILS AND PRACTICE TIMES**

1. G. Berger (Austria), McLaren, 1:51.211 (1st lap, 1:51.211). 2. A. Prost (Fr), Ferrari, 1:51.841. 3. A. Senna (Br), McLaren, 1:52.278. 4. N. Mansell (GB), Ferrari, 1:52.801. 5. N. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:53.085. 6. T. Alesi (Fr), Tyrrell, 1:54.118. 7. J. Alesi (Fr), Tyrrell, 1:54.118. 8. R. Warwick (GB), Lotus, 1:54.620. 9. M. Donnelly (Ir), Leyton House, 1:54.621. 10. I. Parnell (Ir), Leyton House, 1:55.012. 11. A. Suzuki (Japan), Larrousse, 1:55.294. 12. S. Nannini (Italy), Tyrrell, 1:55.718. 13. A. Nannini (Italy), Benetton, 1:55.800. 14. P. Martin (Br), Minardi, 1:56.074. 15. E. Benetton (Br), Minardi, 1:56.074. 16. P. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:56.074. 17. D. Warwick (GB), Lotus, 1:56.246. 18. J. Carr (Ir), Leyton House, 1:56.246. 19. A. Donnelly (Ir), Leyton House, 1:56.246. 20. A. Collins (Ir), Leyton House, 1:56.246. 21. A. Collins (Ir), Leyton House, 1:56.246. 22. P. Barrila (Ir), Minardi, 1:57.221. 23. M. Alboreto (It), Footwork Arrows, 1:57.255. 24. N. Larini (It), Liger, 1:57.471. 25. O. Grouillard (Fr), Osella, 1:57.778. 26. D. Brabham (Aus), Brabham, 1:58.034. 27. G. Tarquini (It), AGS, 1:58.293. 28. Y. Dalmasso (Fr), AGS, 1:58.995. 29. M. de la Rosa (Sp), Agip, 1:59.118. 30. R. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 31. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 32. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 33. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 34. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 35. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 36. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 37. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 38. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 39. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 40. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 41. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 42. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 43. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 44. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 45. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 46. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 47. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 48. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 49. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 50. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 51. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 52. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 53. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 54. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 55. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 56. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 57. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 58. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 59. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 60. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 61. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 62. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 63. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 64. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 65. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 66. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 67. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 68. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 69. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 70. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 71. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 72. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 73. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 74. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 75. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 76. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 77. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 78. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 79. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 80. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 81. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 82. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 83. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 84. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 85. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 86. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 87. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 88. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 89. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 90. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 91. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 92. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 93. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 94. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 95. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 96. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 97. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 98. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 99. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118. 100. A. Piquet (Br), Benetton, 1:59.118.



## Henderson Monsanto appears the threat to Skelton and Apollo for the Derby

## Whitaker mounts a challenge

By JENNY MACARTHUR

MICHAEL Whitaker confirmed his form for tomorrow's £90,000 Silk Cup jumping Derby after gaining his second win in as many days in the Silk Cup Derby trial at Hickstead yesterday.

The Yorkshire-born rider, who afterwards headed for Luxembourg, where he is competing today, won the class on Henderson Monsanto and was also third on Ties Hanauer, his winner on the opening day.

Having said on Thursday that Ties Hanauer was his best hope for the Derby — which he won in 1980 on Owen Gregory — he has changed his allegiance to Monsanto, a horse who finished equal second with his former rider, Gillian Greenwood, in 1988. Nick Skelton, who is seeking his fourth Derby win, singled out Monsanto yesterday as the horse he most fears.

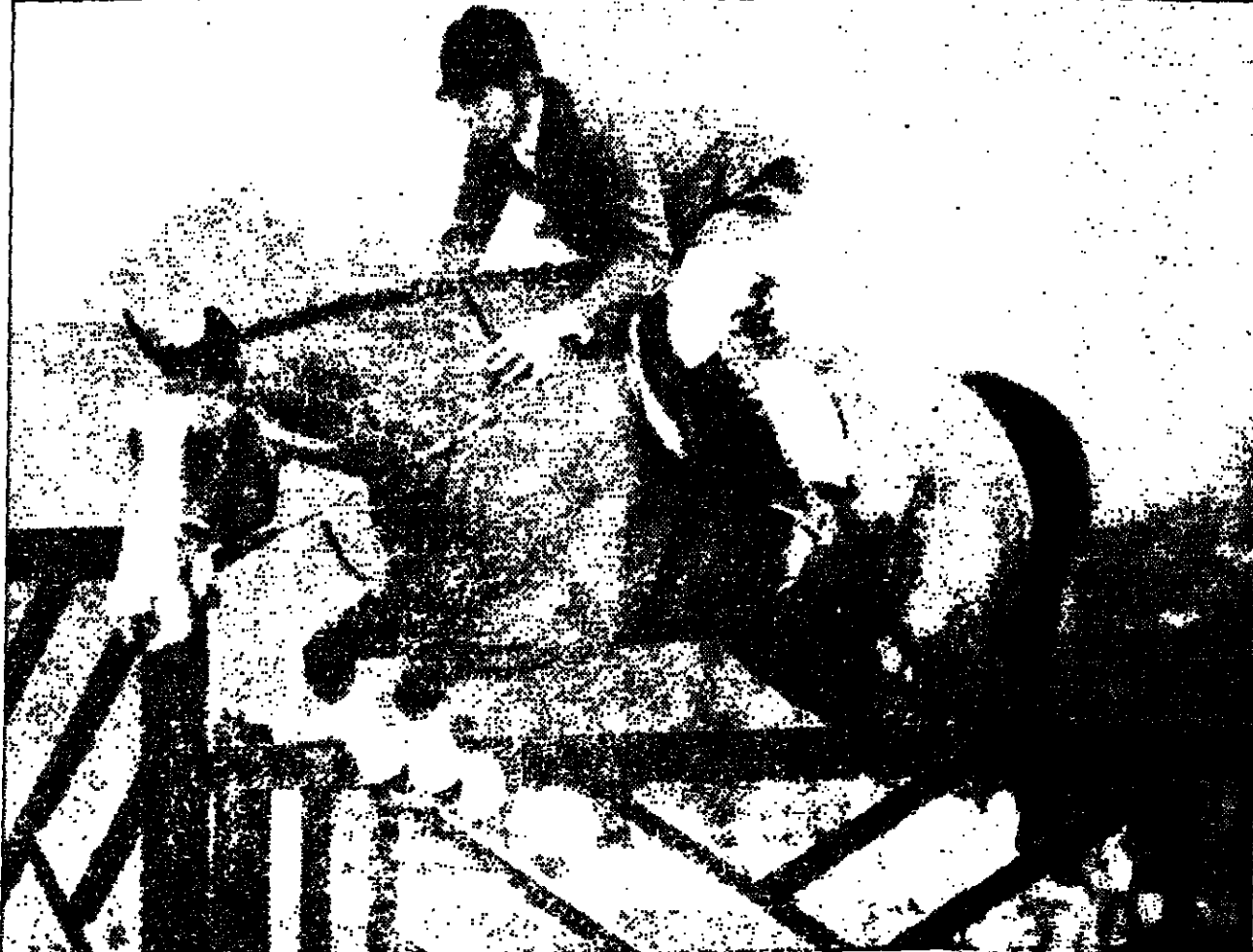
Robert Smith, who has been having a superb season on Brook Street Clover, took second place after a beautifully judged round in the five-horse jump-off, but said he was unlikely to take the inexperienced, eight-year-old into the Derby.

He will rely instead on the older Silver Dust, who just missed qualifying for the jump-off yesterday after collecting four faults at the water fence six. Smith, who disputed the four faults, claiming the horse had not touched the water, was nevertheless delighted with both horses.

Although the course yesterday contained only a handful of the regular Derby fences, clear rounds proved almost as elusive as in the Derby itself. Of 73 starters, only five went clear: Whitaker on his two horses.

Smith, Herve Godignon on M & C Prince, and Skelton on Hopscotch, the horse he has borrowed from John Whitaker. Tina Chassan and Treffer would have made it six, but for a quarter of a tie fault.

Ironically, the favourite for tomorrow, Skelton's 16-year-old Alan Paul Apollo, the winner on the last two occasions, was not among the five, having incurred four faults at the water. Skelton, who finished fifth on Hopscotch, said afterwards: "I was being a bit greedy — I had intended to pull up after fence five but there were only three clear rounds at that stage I decided



Into orbit: Alan Paul Apollo, with Nick Skelton, shows a clean set of hooves in the Derby trials at Hickstead

to go on — and we met the water on the wrong stride."

In the jump-off, Whitaker added some much-needed sparkle to the lengthy competition with a dashing clear round on Ties Hanauer. Godignon replied with a faster time, but incurred four faults. Smith, in a well-riden round, was fast and clear, finishing 0.03sec ahead of Ties Hanauer.

For Whitaker, who never admits defeat, Smith's round provided a timely spur. With his second horse, Henderson Monsanto, he made full use of the galloping course, finishing nearly a second inside his earlier time. Skelton, the last to go, hit fence eight and finished fifth — a rewarding performance on a horse which he last sat on three years ago.

David Broome qualified both his horses, Countryman and Lannegan.

RESULTS: 1. Henderson Monsanto (M Whitaker) 0.41.25; 2. Brook Street Clover (R Smith) 0.42.00; 3. Ties Hanauer (M Whitaker) 0.42.03; 4. M & C Prince (H Godignon) 0.42.06; 5. Hopscotch (N Skelton) 0.42.09.

## Dual gold medal horse dies

LAURESTON, the outstanding event horse owned by Derek and Claud Allhusen, has died at the age of 20 (Jenny MacArthur writes).

Laureston had a short but glorious career. In 1971, aged only seven and ridden by Michael Tucker, he won the Tidworth three-day event, and a team gold medal and an individual bronze at the same Olympics.

In 1972, ridden by Richard Meade, Laureston finished second at Badminton, and achieved his finest accolade with a double gold medal in the Olympic three-day event in Munich. He remains Britain's only Olympic eventing champion.

At the age of nine, Laureston pulled a tendon and was retired from international competition. Until recently, he was used as a schoolmaster for young three-day event riders.

## Lyon fashions surprising lead

By a SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE British young riders team held a surprising lead over the seven visiting countries at the end of the dressage phase of the European young rider championships at Rotherfield Park in Hampshire yesterday.

This was largely due to a good test by the 1985 double gold medalist, Polly Lyon, aged 21, who led the competition on 41.6pts.

Lyon was "thrilled" with her horse, Polly's Last, who "tried his heart out to perform his best test this season".

William Fox-Pitt, the individual bronze medalist, was last year, his fourth only a few points away, while Lynne Bevan, aged 20, in only her first year of eventing, led to mention her first team, his eighth on 50.4 with Daniel Hughes on 55.

The British are making a determined effort to regain the

## A season standing by for the Gazza factor

LAURA THOMPSON

THE thing about Paul Gascoigne is that everyone thought that they were the only person that loved him, that appreciated his specialness. Then they found out that everyone else loved him and appreciated his specialness as well.

At last, that is what happened to me: I admired him when England played Uruguay, felt a fondness for him creeping upon me when they crept upon the Republic of Ireland, had a crush on him during the Netherlands match, worshipped him against Belgium, began working on an impersonation of him post-Cameroon and was all set to write a eulogy for him (in the style of Tennyson) on the Duke of Wellington) after the West Germany game.

It then dawned on me that he did not exert this fascination upon me alone. Not only that — it dawned on me that he had become the most famous person in England. That little idea of mine, that I had thought so clever, to go and report on the first League game at Tottenham — it was not going to be the journalistic scoop of the year. No, wherever I look now, I see Gazza's smiling face: bright, blind-bird eyes; pink piglet skin; mouth permanently ajar, teeth exposed in a curving arc, tongue alert for protrusion.

Here he is on the cover of a newspaper promising you a "best treat" (the nature of which I was too embarrassed to try and ascertain); here he is beaming from the cover of the Radio Times; here is the exit of one girlfriend; here is the arrival of the new one. Every day brings with it a "new" analysis of his persona in the press ( "... the nation cried with him ... George Best ... must not happen again ... pressures ... waffle ... still only 23 ... is he as good as ... ? ... waffle ... will be a marked man ... why special protection? ... waffle ... Venables must keep him in check).

My footballing knowledge is far too small to be able to make a comparative study of his skills, to say whether he is better or worse than George Best or Bobby Charlton or Bryan Robson; he is simply extremely compelling. His abnormally straight back is compelling, the rhythmic way in which he stamps a ball into sub-

mission is compelling, his attempts at Georgie matness with referees are compelling. I seem upon him a sublime confidence: the Laurence Olivier type of confidence, wherein technique is innate and time is yours to hold and play with as you wish.

Also — as I expostulated a couple of weeks ago — Gascoigne is the fallible sportsman *par excellence*, the man who rides the emotional tide of the game and thus creates for his audience the illusion that they are out there playing it with him. He is going through what we are going through, as much as for anything else; if a player is booked in a friendly, then he clearly treats every single match as a matter of life and death. Like the supporters, Gascoigne knows that football is a serious and passionate business, provoking sometimes uncontrollable emotions.

John Barnes, on the other hand, does not do right by football. At the Charity Shield last week at Wembley, Barnes was booed every time he touched the ball; the glassy thought came into my head that he was being vilified for the colour of his skin. Yet neither Paul Ince nor Danny Wallace was booed.

Applying my analytical skills, I could only assume that Barnes was being belatedly punished for his lackadaisical performance in the World Cup. He is the opposite of Gascoigne: a tremendously skilled player who appears to be superstitious to the emotional pull of a game, a man who does not give his all when playing for his country, a heretic who does not worship at the shrine of football. He breezes around, does extraordinary, seemingly effortless, little things with his feet, always looks handsome and a bit detached.

Look at Kenny Dalglish down by the pitch, his never very cheery face screwed into crags of misery and anxiety, even look at Les Sealey with his Roy of the Rovers stance, straining

and pointing, mouthing swear words at the camera, contemplating suicide or murder when Barnes got his penalty. Dalglish and Sealey both know that football must be taken seriously.

But I am glad that the season is standing up again. Football is on a post-World Cup high, which of course should be a good thing in terms of quality of play.

I do find it odd to be contemplating football on a day when England are playing India at the Oval, because, without being aware of it, I find I do divide the year into summer and winter.

Summer — cricket, tennis, panama hats, Henry Blied, languid radio commentaries, the sound of hand bells being hit into hazy skies.

Winter — football, rugby, watching the crucial half-hour of *Grandstand* (4.30-5pm) with the sky pitch black outside, Nigel Starmer-Smith grunting away in a sheepskin coat with his hair being tousled by a force ten gale.

But I relish the return of those hardy perennial lists of football results, announced on the radio by that man with the perfect vocal inflections: from the way in which he colours the home team score, I can accurately predict that of the away side. If he allows himself to use his upper register as he says " Aston Villa are ... " then you know only too well that it is going to be "Luton, nil" modulated dying fall.

I used also to love that dirty old teletypewriter they had on *Grandstand* which typed the football results as you watched. It would jig up and down, relatively quiet and quiescent, waiting for scores; at the extreme left edge of the television screen, then suddenly it would be inundated with information and would tick its grimy, noisy way across, leaving behind it all that vital knowledge: Queen of the South 6, Macclesfield 0. If you did the pools, the teletypewriter really did exercise considerable sadistic power upon you.

This season, the football itself may just be interesting enough to temper the eternal, tormenting desire for eight score draws.

## GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

## FOOTBALL

## First division

Barclays League  
Aston v Southampton  
Chelsea v Leeds  
Everton v Ipswich  
Luton v Palace  
Manchester U v Coventry  
Norwich v Sunderland  
Nottingham Forest v QPR  
Sheff Wed v Liverpool  
Tottenham v Manchester C  
Wimbledon v Arsenal

## B and Q Scottish League

Premier division  
Aberdeen v Hibernian  
Hearts v St Mirren  
Motherwell v Celtic  
Rangers v Dunfermline  
St Johnstone v Dundee Utd

## First division

Airdrie v Morton  
Ayr v Dundee  
Brechin v Raith R  
Clyde v Clydebank  
Dundee v Partick  
Falkirk v Hamilton  
Meadowbank v Kilmarnock

## Second division

Aberdeen v Hibernian  
Hearts v St Mirren  
Motherwell v Celtic  
Rangers v Dunfermline  
St Johnstone v Dundee Utd

## BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division

Beazer Homes v Bromsgrove  
Bromsgrove v Burton  
Burton v Chesham  
Chesham v Crawley  
Crawley v Farnborough  
Farnborough v Havant  
Havant v Portsmouth  
Portsmouth v Woking  
Woking v Wokingham  
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Wokingham v Woking

## Second division

Barnsley v Brighton  
Bristol City v Blackpool  
Charlton v Swindon  
Hull v Notts Co  
Ipswich v Sheffield Wed  
Leicester City v Arsenal  
Luton v Ipswich  
Middlesbrough v West Ham  
Newcastle v Plymouth  
Oxford v Port Vale  
Sheff Wed v West Bromwich  
Wolverhampton v Millwall  
Wolves v Oldham

## GM Vauxhall Conference

Altrincham v Bath  
Barrow v Cheltenham  
Boston v Welling  
Cambridge v Welling  
Kidderminster v Fisher A  
Macclesfield v Wycombe  
Northwich v Barnet  
Slough v Runcorn  
Stafford v Sutton  
Telford v Yeovil

## IRISH LEAGUE: Lombard United Cup

First round: Ards v Linfield, Glenavon v Ballyclare

## VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division

Barrow v Warrington  
Barnsley v Barnsley  
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## Third division

Bradford v Tranmere  
Brentford v Bournemouth  
Bury v Chester  
Cambridge v Birmingham  
Crewe v Fulham  
Exeter v Reading  
Huddersfield v Carlisle  
Luton v Swindon  
Preston v Grimsby  
Sheff Wed v Bolton  
Sunderland v Millwall  
Wigan v Mansfield

## HPS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division

Bradford v Tranmere  
Brentford v Bournemouth  
Bury v Chester  
Cambridge v Birmingham  
Crewe v Fulham  
Exeter v Reading  
Huddersfield v Carlisle  
Luton v Swindon  
Preston v Grimsby  
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Sunderland v Millwall  
Wigan v Mansfield

## Fourth division

Barnsley v Lincoln  
Cardiff v Doncaster  
Carlisle v Doncaster  
Chesterfield v Hartlepool  
Gillingham v Darlington  
Hull v Stockport  
Huddersfield v Carlisle  
Luton v Swindon  
Preston v Grimsby  
Sheff Wed v Bolton  
Sunderland v Millwall  
Wigan v Mansfield

## CRICKET

## Third Cornhill Test

11.00, 100 overs minimum  
THE OVAL: England v India  
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Sri Lanka  
The Oval: England v India  
Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Sri Lanka

## TOMORROW

## CRICKET

## Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Sri Lanka

## The Oval: England v India

## Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire v Sri Lanka

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## The Oval: England v India



# New leaders demonstrate championship form with overwhelming victory by an innings

## Essex profit from errors to make their case for title

By STEPHEN THORPE

**DERBY** (second day of four): Essex (24pts) beat Derbyshire (4pts) by an innings and 94 runs. Essex took maximum points from a comprehensive victory over Derby yesterday, which provides them with a clear lead at the head of the championship table, at least for a day. Their seventh win in ten matches is the form of champions at just the right time and the margin, an innings and 94 runs, amply reflected their supremacy over a disheartened Derbyshire who offered negligible resistance for the second time in two days.

Essex's elation, though, will take no account of another thoroughly ill-disciplined batting effort from the Derbyshire top order, emphasised this time, by a pitch far more placid than on the first day.

To the delight of a clutch of Essex supporters in the grandstand, Derbyshire, needing 221 to avoid an innings defeat, started badly and were beaten by five o'clock despite a rally of gusto, worth 62 runs, delivered by Adams and Goldsmith.

Derbyshire had even improved on their first innings debacle when slumping to 22 for four, a nadir from which there is rarely a return. So it proved. Foster bowled Bowler then Barnett, for the second time, failed to come to terms with a lively in-dipper from Iltis and saw his balls trimmed. O'Gorman compounded the mess through an awful air drive and Roberts nudged a simple return catch to Foster.

Morris's robustness has been badly missed in this

## Time to play the game by numbers

SIMON BARNES

MY ENDURING memory of a very pleasing day's cricket at the Oval yesterday is of a lute-tempered, elegant, muscled figure with a blue helmet, black moustache and glittering black eyes, hammering the ball for four. Was it Shastri or Kapil Dev?

Ah, but this one was easy. Kapil was wearing a long-sleeved shirt with the sleeves rolled down. Shastri was wearing a short-sleeved shirt. Compared to distinguishing Haynes and Greenidge, of the West Indies, this one was a doddle.

Those two are practically indistinguishable. Both wear maroon helmets, similar shirts, and both have white blinkers on the helmets. Haynes is a bit more muscled. Got it?

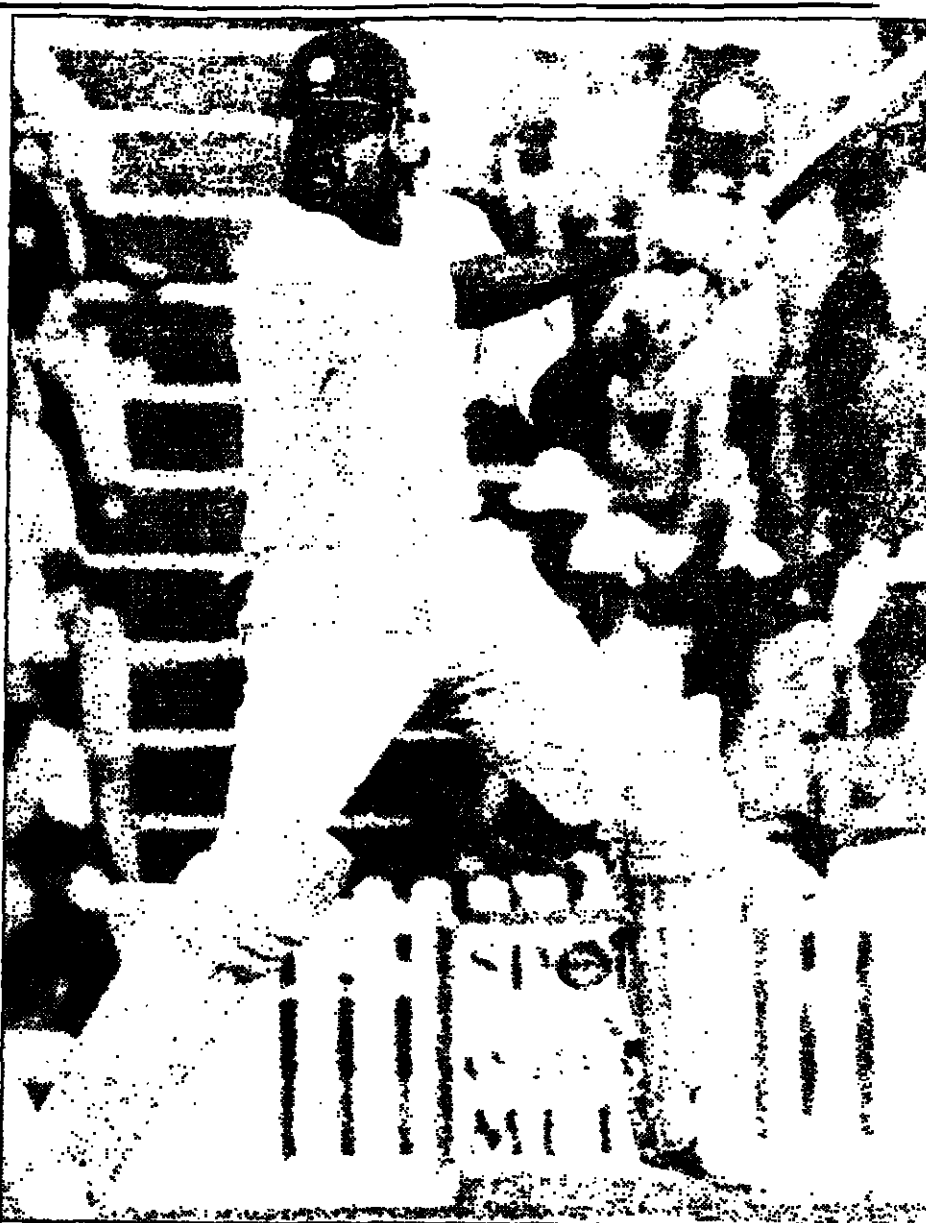
India and New Zealand have played only three Test matches this summer, and we are still learning what their players look like. And, after missing half the season at the World Cup and on holiday, I cannot recognise every one of England's fielders at first glance, either.

This detracts a little from the enjoyment of the day. If you cannot tell at a glance which batsman is on strike, you lose touch with the rhythm of the day. If you haven't picked up a bowling change, you miss something.

Not every spectator is a full-time cricket person. Not every one is watching television, and is guided by the commentator and the close-ups. Not everyone brings binoculars to see if that really is Smith or the other Smith or Smith without his baseball cap.

The real problem, though, is the anonymity of helmeted batsmen. The game changes: helmets are ubiquitous. There are many other changes, even now, various companies are making financial offers to the Test and County Cricket Board because the left beam of every English cricketer has been put up for sale.

For a fee, you can write the name of your product on the helmet and sleeves of the England team. But the idea of having a player's name on his



A cut above: Kapil Dev finds the mark during his century at the Oval yesterday

shirt, or even a number — this is supposed to be unthinkable.

Not part of the traditional game, they say. Well, yesterday's traditional game was the third Cornhill Test, played at the Oval, in front of packed and brand new executive hospitality stands. And if that commercialism isn't quite enough for you, there are two great Cornhill logos painted on the grass.

I fail to see the logic of the refusal to consider named and numbered shirts. When the England team shirts are on sale to the highest bidder, what is the problem with writing something on it that is actually useful to spectators?

Perhaps it is all part of the

secret notion held in many cricket hearts that cricket is a private matter, and the public can go hang. There is plenty of public relations in cricket, but very little thought of relating to the public.

For there is no sport in which the competitors are so anonymous. Even in polo, you wear a number. If Prince Charles can wear a number on his back, I don't see why Graham Gooch can't. Three-day events wear numbers. Triathletes have numbers inked onto their skin. Jockeys wear wild silks. Why cannot helmeted batsmen wear a differentiating silk, like pace maker and favourite in a big race?

Traditionally, cricket allowed

for a great deal more individualism. Douglas Jardine's Harlequin cap is one example; one might also cite Percy Chapman's Quindine cap. Freddie Brown's kerchief. Wally Hammond's always visible handle, or Ranji's long silken sleeves.

It would be fun to see such traditions revived, perhaps. But players must wear helmets these days, or risk injury and death. It is this modern move that has created the anonymity; another modern move should be taken to end it.

Don Wilson is to leave his position as the MCC's head coach, which he has occupied for the last 14 years, in December to take up a post at Ampleforth College.

## Moxon is given staunch support

By RICHARD STREETON

**HEADINGLEY** (second day of four): Yorkshire, with four first-innings wickets in hand, are 148 runs behind Middlesex. MARTYN Moxon, frustrated Middlesex yesterday as he made a disciplined return and held the Yorkshire innings together in the manner that Boycott used to. When Moxon was fifth out, Yorkshire were still 70 runs off. Only six singles came from his first 12 overs as Moxon was kept subdued and Byas was left thoroughly baffled. Both men were missed as a tense battle of wits continued. Moxon was 60 when he was dropped by Haynes at slip off Embury. Byas was nine when he survived a low chance to Cowans at backward point off Tufnell. Their fifth-wicket stand was worth an invaluable 50 in 26 overs when Tufnell had Moxon caught behind as he tried to cut. Moxon hit a six and 14 fours as he battled through 65 overs.

Carriek gave Middlesex little encouragement and Byas looked more at ease when the quicker bowlers were used after tea. Another watchful stand developed before Byas drove loosely outside the off stump and was caught at first slip. Though he looked comfortable, Byas manfully fought on for 24 hours.

he played first-footed against another ball that left him.

Middlesex, bringing a much-needed improvement to the overrate, had switched to spin at both ends by the time Blakey clipped a return catch to Tufnell after lunch. They know all about slow left-arm bowling on this ground and Tufnell's control was acknowledged several times in a tight spell.

Only six singles came from his first 12 overs as Moxon was kept subdued and Byas was left thoroughly baffled. Both men were missed as a tense battle of wits continued. Moxon was 60 when he was dropped by Haynes at slip off Embury. Byas was nine when he survived a low chance to Cowans at backward point off Tufnell. Their fifth-wicket stand was worth an invaluable 50 in 26 overs when Tufnell had Moxon caught behind as he tried to cut. Moxon hit a six and 14 fours as he battled through 65 overs.

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INDIA won toss

INDIA	First Innings
R J Shastri c Lamb b Malcolm	157
Tired drive edged to first slip	
N S Sidhu c Russell b Fraser	12
Driving catch in front of first slip	
S V Manjrekar c Russell b Malcolm	22
Longed at ball well wide of off-stump	
D B Viswanath c and b Altherton	33
Return catch from full toss	
M Azharuddin c Russell b Williams	78
Brilliant one-handed diving catch	
M Prasad b Russell	28
Played down wrong line	
G R Tendulkar c Lamb b Williams	21
Loose drive	
Kapil Dev c Russell b Hemmings	110
Advanced to drive ball drifting away	
K S More not out	61
A Wasman b Hemmings	15
Bowled round b playing across the line	
N D Hirwani not out	2
Extras (b 7, lb 8, w 5, nb 16)	37
Total (8 wickets dec, 173 overs)	606

ENGLAND First Innings

ENGLAND	First Innings
G A Gooch not out	5
M A Atherton c More b Prabhakar	7
Fraser and D E Malcolm to bat	
N F Williams not out	15
Extras (b 4, lb 1, w 2, nb 2)	9
Total (1 wicket, 12 overs)	26

7-478 (Kapil Dev 64 n o; 5-552 (More 26 n o; 5-576 (More 34 n o).  
BOWLING: Malcolm 35-7-110-3; Fraser 42-17-112-2; Shastri 27-11-50-4; 2-11-0, 5-1-12-0, 6-4-14-1, 5-1-25-0, 1-0-3-0; Williams 41-5-148-2 (nb 12); 18-1-19-0, 7-0-25-0, 6-2-21-1, 4-0-16-0, 8-0-40-0; Gooch 12-1-44-0 (2-4-0, 7-1-22-0, 1-0-2-0); Hemmings 38-11-8-1-29-0, 8-1-29-0, 1-0-1-0, 10-0-30-0; Atherton 7-0-8-0-1 (w 2); (4-0-26-1, 3-0-32-0).

## Warwickshire relinquish advantage

By JACK BAILEY

**WORCESTER** (second day of four): Warwickshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 90 runs ahead of Gloucestershire.

WARWICKSHIRE will not be seen pleased with their second-innings victory over Gloucestershire yesterday. Having grasped Worcester firmly by the throat on Thursday, when they took five prime wickets for 57 runs,

they loosened their grip. Yesterday they achieved a similar feat, throwing to the wind the dominant position established by Moxon and Ratcliffe and declining, largely through indecisive batting, from 101 with nine wickets in hand, to 222 all out.

Newport and Dilley produced the odd slaughter at the end where eight wickets had fallen to Small and company, and

Lampitt, always a handful, wrapped up the innings with three wickets from 14 balls. But, by one, Warwickshire's early batsmen lost concentration and excellent catching by Rhodes and D'Oliveira ensured that no liberty went unpunished.

Warwickshire appeared to have overcome the indignity of watching Dilley and McEwan extend their last-wicket partner-

ship to 48 during the first hour. Dilley had batted responsibly for more than two hours and his bowling kept Moxon and Ratcliffe on their toes.

When Newport switched ends the first breakthrough came. Ratcliffe played a loose shot to lunch. Thereafter Moxon reached a hard-earned 50, but neither he nor Lloyd will remember with relish the shots from which they were caught.

## YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

### Northants v Gloucestershire

**Northants** (second day of four): Gloucestershire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 332 runs behind Gloucestershire.

GLoucestershire: First Innings

T S Curran c Lloyd b Small	27
G J Lloyd not out	14
D B O'Donnell c Phipps b Small	0
C R Davies c Phipps b Small	0
K M Curran c Phipps b Williams	19
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
Extras (b 0, lb 0, w 0, nb 0)	0
Total (8 wickets, 280 for 4)	222

### Warwickshire v Gloucestershire

**Warwickshire** (second day of four): Warwickshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 90 runs ahead of Gloucestershire.

Warwickshire: First Innings

T S Curran c Lloyd b Small	27
G J Lloyd not out	14
D B O'Donnell c Phipps b Small	0
C R Davies c Phipps b Small	0
K M Curran c Phipps b Williams	19
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
Extras (b 0, lb 0, w 0, nb 0)	0
Total (8 wickets, 280 for 4)	222

### Derbyshire v Essex

**Derbyshire** (second day of four): Essex, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 148 runs behind Middlesex.

Derbyshire: First Innings

T S Curran c Lloyd b Small	27
G J Lloyd not out	14
D B O'Donnell c Phipps b Small	0
C R Davies c Phipps b Small	0
K M Curran c Phipps b Williams	19
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
Extras (b 0, lb 0, w 0, nb 0)	0
Total (8 wickets, 280 for 4)	222

### Worcestershire v Gloucestershire

**Worcestershire** (second day of four): Gloucestershire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 332 runs behind Gloucestershire.

Worcestershire: First Innings

T S Curran c Lloyd b Small	27
G J Lloyd not out	14
D B O'Donnell c Phipps b Small	0
C R Davies c Phipps b Small	0
K M Curran c Phipps b Williams	19
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
P J Rhodes b Phipps	36
Extras (b 0, lb 0, w 0, nb 0)	0
Total (8 wickets, 280 for 4)	222

## Derbyshire need rare Essex win

**THE** finale to the Refuge Assurance League tomorrow will be compelling (two Tennant wickets). One of three counties, Derbyshire, Lancashire or Middlesex, can win it and £24,000 in prize money.

Should Derbyshire beat Essex at Derby, which they have to lead a habit of doing in this competition, they will win the league. Lancashire, who are two points behind them, must beat Warwickshire at Old Trafford. Should they both lose, and Middlesex defeat Yorkshire at Scarborough, Middlesex can win through a superior run-rate.

All three counties will be affected by Tommy's Derbyshire will be without Malcolm Morris, Lancashire will be without Atherton, and Middlesex will have neither Fraser nor Williams, and Gattling has been ruled out by a hamstring injury. If Derbyshire do win the league, it will be for the first time. Their record against Essex is not propitious: 15 defeats and just four victories. Last year, Essex won by one run.

Also to be decided is fourth place in the qualification for the Refuge Assurance Cup play-offs. Hampshire, who play Surrey tomorrow, contest the position with Nottinghamshire.

## Worcestershire v Warwick

**WORCESTER** (second day of four): Warwickshire, with all second-innings wickets in hand, are 90 runs ahead of Gloucestershire.

WARWICKSHIRE will not be seen pleased with their second-innings victory over Gloucestershire yesterday. Having grasped Worcester firmly by the throat on Thursday, when they took five prime wickets for 57 runs,

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## BOWLS

## Morley outwitted by short jacks of steady Allcock

By GORDON ALLAN

**TONY** Allcock, of Cheltenham, and Kirk Smith, of Donham, Buckinghamshire, advanced to the final of the Woolwich EBA singles championship in front of packed stands at Worthing yesterday.

Allcock, the runner-up to David Holt in 1987, has yet to capture this title, which has never been won by a player from a Gloucestershire club.

Playing his fourth international opponent in consecutive matches, Allcock defeated Brett Morley 25-13 in the semi-finals. Allcock, using his familiar short-mat tactics, was there or thereabouts around the jack most of the time — 6-0 up in three ends, including a four, and 19-5 after 13.

Morley had a four on the seventh end but that was the extent of his success, while Allcock remorselessly established a winning position, frequently getting the crucial first bowl on the jack.

Smith beat Terry James 25-30, scoring three shots on each of the last three ends, and led 12-6, but Smith kept batting away, chasing well to the long jacks as he approached his next.

Smith plays for Buckinghamshire in their Middleton Cup semi-final against Yorkshire at Worthing today. Dorset beat Essex in the other match.

In the longest of the quarter-finals, James beat Jim Hobday 25-20 in 32 ends. Hobday won a gold medal in the triples at the 1980 world championships in Australia but has not played for England since 1984.

RESULTS: Singles: Quarter-final: T Smith (Donham) vs A Chambers (Borough) 25-13; T James (Worcester) vs J Bagnall (Worcester) 25-20; A Smith (Cheltenham) vs M Bagg (Worcester) 25-17; B Morley (Donham) vs G Stacey (Worcester) 25-18. Semi-finals: Smith vs James, 25-20; Allcock vs Morley, 25-12.

## RUGBY LEAGUE

## Magnetic appeal of the cup giants

By KEITH MACKLIN

**WHILE** first division clubs west of the Pennines will feast themselves on second division county cup opposition, Leeds and Bradford Northern are cursing the lack of the draw on the other side of the hills.

Whenever cup draws are made in Yorkshire, these two giants seem to come together as magnets. Last season, they were drawn together in the county cup, Regal Trophy and Silk Cut Challenge Cup, and yet again this season they must meet in the opening round of the Yorkshire Cup tomorrow.

Consequently, another five-figure Headingley crowd will watch an action repeat of those three ties last season, of which Northern won two and Leeds one. Leeds are strengthened by the return from New Zealand of the second row forward, Mike Kuiti, but the big attraction will be the first appearance in a really competitive match of the former All Black full back, John Gallagher.

Hull Kingston Rovers begin with a match at Ryedale, York, in the game which launches the new British Aerospace satellite programme for pubs, clubs and licensed premises at 1.00pm.

In the Lancashire Cup, there are no such problems for first division sides, who have remarkably managed to avoid each other in tomorrow's first round matches. Most of the international players missing from last week's Charity Shield game return for Wigan against Barrow, who conceded more than 1,000 points in the first division last season.

Unless Barrow have stiffened up, there could be a repeat of the 100-point massacre inflicted by Hull Kingston Rovers at Nottingham in the preliminary round.

St Helens, who entertain Trafford Borough, Widnes, at Whitehaven, and Warrington, who are at home to Chorley, should coast through without difficulty.

## YACHTING

## W Germans double up

**MEDEMBLICK**, The Netherlands — The 470 world championship slipped from the hands of Nigel Buckley, of Britain, and the Tyniste brothers from Estonia, in another light shift on the water yesterday (Roger Lean Vercoe writes). By cruising to third place in the final race, Wolfgang Hunger, of West Germany, did enough to secure the championship. West

Germans also won the women's title.

RESULTS: 470: Men: Final race: G Nee and G Gagne (N) Overall: W Hunger and R Schmidt (W). Women: Final race: W Bagnall (W). Overall: W Hunger and R Schmidt (W). Soling world championship: Sixth race: T Stammer and S Lankmann (W). Overall leader (with one race to sail): Bouet. Tomorrow world championship: Sixth race: Bouet and A. Enzenhofer (F). Overall leader (with one race to sail): Bouet.

## SPORT IN BRIEF

## Favourite loses lead

**JYVASKYLA**, Finland (AFP) — Carlos Sainz, of Spain, took a 15sec lead midway through the second stage of the 1,000 lakes rally in Finland yesterday. The pre-race favourite, Jutta Kankkunen, of Finland, the overnight leader, dropped to fourth.

## Broken wrist

Grenoble (Reuters) — Charly Mottet, the French cyclist, broke his left wrist during training yesterday and will miss next month's world road race championships in Japan.

## Costly lapse

After being warned for slow play during the second round of the Stockholm open golf championship yesterday, Suzanne Stradwick, of Britain, dropped strokes at the 8th and 9th holes before finishing a stroke behind the halfway leader, Liselotte Neumann, of Sweden.

## Drug bans

Moscow (Reuters) — Tamara Bykova, the former world high jump champion, and the heptathlete Larisa Nikulina, of the Soviet Union, have been suspended for using banned drugs and will miss next week's European athletics championships.

## Lucky seven

A seven on the fifteenth and helped Iswyn Morgan and Louie Davies, of Port Talbot, beat David Weale, of Presteigne, and Gary Davies, of Llanidloes, in the Welsh national mixed pairs final yesterday.

## Robertson in Ealing squad for Eindhoven

**EALING** take part in an international women's tournament in Eindhoven, The Netherlands, this weekend, where they will face stiff opposition from European clubs such as HGC, Bayer Leverkusen, Rusehlheim, Orange Zwart and the Italian national squad (Joyce Whitehead writes).

They include Julie Robertson, from Welwyn Garden City, who played for England in the last home counties tournament, and Angela Cannell, back after a year's absence. Also competing for places are Kathy Minchell, of Sussex and South, Alison Burd, who played for South last season, Chastell Roberts and Sue Coates, both of Middlesex and Winchester Hill, and Sarah Lawful, of England under-21.

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# Mirror Black to take centre stage

By MANDARIN

MIRROR Black, who does not know how to run a bad race, looks well treated in the Beefeater Gin Celebration Mile at Goodwood today, and is fancied to gain his second pattern success of the season.

His first came in a group three race at Baden-Baden in May, but the consistent Alzao colt showed he was capable of holding his own in better class when a neck second to Markofdistinction in the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot the following month.

Peter Makin's colt finished lame that day but has been given plenty of time to make a full recovery and his shrewd trainer would not contemplate running him in this exalted company were he not back to his best.

Salfawar started favourite for the Queen Anne on the



Makin: Goodwood return for smart Mirror Black

third in the St James's Palace Stakes, Lord Florey starting favourite but finishing 11th lengths adrift of the winner after failing to get the best of runs.

A 6lb pull in the weights should enable Lord Florey to take his revenge this afternoon but his subsequent defeat when odds-on for a listed race at Lingfield confirmed that he is not the easiest of horses with which to win.

Shavian ran another fine race when a close third to Distant Relative and Green Line Express in the Sussex Stakes but his 6lb group one penalty means that he meets Mirror Black on level terms, instead of receiving 6lb weight-for-age.

Candy Glen is similarly penalised for his Italian 2,000 Guineas success and has since

run an excellent race when a close fifth to Prigio in the Prix Jacques Le Marois. An interesting form line through Distant Relative, third in that group one Deauville race, gives Candy Glen an almost identical chance to Shavian today.

Today's map, though, is awarded to Very Adjacent, who returns to the scene of his Stewards' Cup triumph 13 months ago and at last looks to have been given a winning chance by the handicapper in the £20,000 Sport On 2 Stakes.

Gerald Cottrell's good sprinter has been burdened by big weights for most of the season but has caught the eye on a number of occasions, particularly when fourth to Solomon's Song, beaten less than a length, under 9st 10lb in a £10,000 handicap at Salisbury in June.

Masoun, fifth at the Withshire track but now 5lb worse off, looks held and a bigger danger could be Coppermill Lad, another who is well treated on his best form. Jack Holt, his trainer, loves nothing better than to win here as the victories of Argentum at the big meeting and Beaumonts Keep yesterday verify.

River God, whose only defeat this season came in the Derby, is hard to oppose in the Tie Maria March Stakes despite having to concede weight all round.

Among Pat Eddery's strong hand at Newmarket is the Robert Sangster-Barry Hills newcomer, Road To The Isle (2.45). The champion jockey flies on to Windsor in the evening where Far Pavillion (5.45) and Marquetry (7.40) can add to his formidable tally.

## GOODWOOD

Selections

By Mandarin

2.00 River God.

2.30 VEEZAJACENT (nap).

3.10 Mirror Black.

3.40 You Are A Star.

4.10 Windward.

4.45 Amber Mill.

5.20 Air Time.

Michael Seely's selection: 2.30 Cronk's Courage.

Going: good to firm

5f-1m, high numbers best

2.0 TIA MARIA MARCH STAKES (Listed race: 3-Y-O: £10,185: 1m 6f) (4 runners)

101 (7) 3-1011 RIVER GOD (4) (P) (Shavian) Makin 5-9-3 W R Southern 59

102 (7) 0-91 CELESTIAL QUEST 25 (P) (Mrs S Purton) R Guest 8-11 W R Southern 59

103 (2) 113 CRACK 22 (P) (Mrs C Heats) L Cantel 8-11 L Dostal 58

104 (4) 885 JUDICIAL HIND 22 (P) (Mrs A Heats) L Cantel 8-11 R Coshane 58

BETTING: 8-15 River God, 7-2 Crack, 5-1 Judicial Hind, 14-1 Celestial Quest.

1989: MASHUM 6-11 (11-4) H Coal 4 ran

FORM FOCUS RIVER GOD, who won the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot in May, is good to firm in this race. He is a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm) in his last race.

CELESTIAL QUEST ran good but beat Pipkins 1m in a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm). Will be in selection: RIVER GOD.

2.30 SPORT ON 2 HANDICAP (£15,680: 6f) (13 runners)

201 (1) 110-32 FRESH 21 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

202 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

203 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

204 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

205 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

206 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

207 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

208 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

209 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

210 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

211 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

212 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

213 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

BETTING: 4-1 Amigo Minor, 5-2 MASHUM, 13-2 Green Dancer, 8-1 Be Fresh, 9-1 Cronk's Courage, 10-1 City Link Pet, 11-1 Very Adjacent, 12-1 Tauber, 16-1 others.

1989: MASHUM 4-8-11 (13-2) R O'Sullivan 12 ran

FORM FOCUS FRESH, who won the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot in May, is good to firm in this race. He is a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm) in his last race.

CELESTIAL QUEST ran good but beat Pipkins 1m in a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm). Will be in selection: RIVER GOD.

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211 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

212 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

213 (2) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

BETTING: 4-1 Amigo Minor, 5-2 MASHUM, 13-2 Green Dancer, 8-1 Be Fresh, 9-1 Cronk's Courage, 10-1 City Link Pet, 11-1 Very Adjacent, 12-1 Tauber, 16-1 others.

1989: MASHUM 4-8-11 (13-2) R O'Sullivan 12 ran

FORM FOCUS FRESH, who won the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot in May, is good to firm in this race. He is a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm) in his last race.

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BETTING: 4-1 Amigo Minor, 5-2 MASHUM, 13-2 Green Dancer, 8-1 Be Fresh, 9-1 Cronk's Courage, 10-1 City Link Pet, 11-1 Very Adjacent, 12-1 Tauber, 16-1 others.

1989: MASHUM 4-8-11 (13-2) R O'Sullivan 12 ran

FORM FOCUS FRESH, who won the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot in May, is good to firm in this race. He is a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm) in his last race.

CELESTIAL QUEST ran good but beat Pipkins 1m in a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm). Will be in selection: RIVER GOD.

## NEWCASTLE

Selections

By Mandarin

2.15 Message Pad, 2.50 Top Scale, 3.25 Young

3.05 Shilinski, 4.30 For Real, 5.0 Dookha

Oyston.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Abs, 4.0 Shilinski, 4.30 Super Deb.

Going: firm (watered) Draw: no advantage SIS

2.15 WIDE OPEN HANDICAP (£7,765: 1m) (6 runners)

1 591 ABS 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

2 491 MESSAGE PAD 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

3 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

4 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

5 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

6 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

BETTING: 8-15 Abs, 7-2 Message Pad, 13-2 WIDER, 14-1 WIDER, 15-1 WIDER.

1989: ABS 4-8-11 (13-2) R O'Sullivan 12 ran

FORM FOCUS ABS, who won the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot in May, is good to firm in this race. He is a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm) in his last race.

MESSAGE PAD ran good but beat Pipkins 1m in a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm). Will be in selection: RIVER GOD.

2.50 TOP SCALE HANDICAP (£2,574: 1m) (12 runners)

1 515 BEECHY BOY 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

2 400 WALTZ ON AIR 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

3 222 SCOTTISH REFORM 14 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

4 141 COOL ENOUGH 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

5 253 NOT YET 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

6 2013 MONEY BOY 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

7 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

8 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

9 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

10 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

11 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

12 100-49 WIDER 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

BETTING: 8-15 Abs, 7-2 Message Pad, 13-2 WIDER, 14-1 WIDER, 15-1 WIDER.

1989: ABS 4-8-11 (13-2) R O'Sullivan 12 ran

FORM FOCUS ABS, who won the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot in May, is good to firm in this race. He is a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm) in his last race.

MESSAGE PAD ran good but beat Pipkins 1m in a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm). Will be in selection: RIVER GOD.

3.10 BEEFEATER GIN CELEBRATION MILE (Group II: £20,590: 1m) (5 runners)

301 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

302 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

303 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

304 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

305 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

306 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

307 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

308 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

309 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

310 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

311 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

312 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

313 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

314 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

315 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

316 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

317 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

318 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

319 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

320 (5) 11-4115 SFAWAW 15 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

BETTING: 8-15 Abs, 7-2 Message Pad, 13-2 WIDER, 14-1 WIDER, 15-1 WIDER.

1989: ABS 4-8-11 (13-2) R O'Sullivan 12 ran

FORM FOCUS ABS, who won the Queen Anne Stakes at Royal Ascot in May, is good to firm in this race. He is a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm) in his last race.

MESSAGE PAD ran good but beat Pipkins 1m in a Leicester, maid (1m 4f, good to firm). Will be in selection: RIVER GOD.

3.40 RICHMOND-BRISCA TROPHY HANDICAP (Amateur: £3,482: 1m 1f) (6 runners)

401 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

402 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

403 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

404 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

405 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

406 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

407 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

408 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59

409 (6) 0-90-22 MASHUM 25 (P) (P) (Mrs S Purton) L Cantel 8-11 W R Southern 59







## YACHTS

BARRY PICKTHALL, YACHTING CORRESPONDENT

For owners of Swans the racing is not quite enough. They tend to be people who like a hectic social life and are happy to sail across an ocean to have one



Happiness is: the crew of Kwa Ngema. Yacht racing is the finest "people sport", demanding skill and sheer brawn, says the owner, Crispian Hotson (fourth from right). He has not touched his golf clubs for eight months

## Setting the pace for the party

Porto Cervo in July, Guernsey in August... then it must be Nantucket Island in September for the owners of Swan yachts. Their social horizons have been widened to encompass most cruising ambitions by Nautor, the Finnish builders of this aristocratic line of cruiser-racers, which includes partying in its after sales service (Barry Pickthall writes).

The exclusive Sardinian resort may be the Costa Lotta of the Mediterranean, where service is dependent on the waiter recalling the size of your last tip; likewise Nantucket an ocean away, but like St Peter Port, these venues have become favourites among Swan owners for their world, European and Atlantic championships.

Racing is only part of the attraction. Such is the bonhomie generated among crews that on-the-water skirmishes are invariably settled in the bar afterwards, or over a round of golf, rather than before a protest committee. And if the wind, or lack of it, looks as if it might impinge on the social programme, then the day's sport is invariably shortened.

Nautor, which built on early successes in the Whitbread Round the World Race and Admiral's Cup to become the BMW of the

size from 36ft to an elegant 86 footer, both designed by German Frers, are craft most yachtsmen aspire to. Teak decks, exquisite joinery, proven performance — and price — put them a cut above rival production lines and the pocket of most first time buyers.

One exception is Crispian Hotson, a sport-thirsty South African who heads Ryan International, a British coal mining conglomerate second only in size to the National Coal Board. Earlier this year, he took delivery of one of the latest Swan 44 yachts and has been winning races like a veteran ever since. A man with an equal passion for golf and rugby, he had not sailed competitively since racing a Flying Dutchman Olympic dinghy with his father in Cape Town, but has been bitten so badly by the sailing bug, and Swan sailing in particular, that he has not touched his golf clubs for eight months.

"This is the finest people sport I have ever indulged in," he says with the enthusiasm of the newly converted. "There is such a multiplicity of disciplines — navigation, sail choice and trimming, forecasting and tactics, as well as the brawn required to pull up sails and winch them in."

"Just as in business, there is a direct link between responsibility

and accountability. If a manoeuvre goes well, it reflects on everyone. If it goes badly everyone knows who was to blame." Despite the luxurious interior, Mr Hotson did not buy his Swan for family cruising.

"My wife is heavily into horses.

She has only been on the boat once and that was to have a glass of champagne at the launch," he says. Mr Hotson's sole interest is in racing, leaving others to deliver the boat from one regatta to another.

Not averse to importing talent,

Mr Hotson, who imported two Springbok players to strengthen Ebbw Vale, the Welsh rugby side his company sponsored last season, has gathered a top crew that includes the former Olympic aspirant Nigel Barrow, and his brother David.

The winners this year of the Gold Roman Bowl, the top trophy in the Round the Island race, and the Bembridge Ledge trophy, Mr Hotson's crew described their 16th place during the recent world championship as "below par". Undeterred, Mr Hotson's 44ft Kwa Ngema is set to compete in the classic La Nioulargue regatta at St Tropez in October before being shipped south to Cape Town in December for Rothmans Week, the top South African series.

Unlike Mr Hotson, Mike Leadbetter, the Swan European champion, is at heart a cruising man who discovered racing only after buying his first Swan. He is taking a year's sabbatical from his Motown family forklift business, based in the Midlands, to make up for lost time. Nicknamed "the Birnam Admiral" by his rivals, Mr Leadbetter and his family graduated through a succession of cruisers before buying a Swan 371, then the smallest in the range.

"Suddenly we found we could sail 120-130 miles in 24 hours instead of struggling to better 100. It was only a question of time before our competitive instincts took over," he says.

"When I bought the boat, I couldn't believe why anyone would want 11 winches onboard. We were very naive. We turned up at our first regatta in Cork without

a measurement certificate and no class pennant, but the committee let us sail anyway and we had a lot of laughs." Two years later, he traded up to his present Swan 391 Eclipse, a design which has just ceased production, and has not looked back. For this, Mr Leadbetter thanks Owen Parker, Edward Heath's former sailing master, who has been helping call the shots throughout.

"I don't believe in taking on hired assassins. My crew are the same people I used to cruise with, but thanks to Owen, our learning curve has been like a climb up the north face of the Eiger. He has taught us something new each time we go out and now I would be happy to pit my crew against any of the hot-shots."

From aspiring to own a Swan, Mr Leadbetter's next goal was to win a gold Rolex, but thanks to Mr Parker's training and tactical calls, he finished with two at last year's European championship in Guernsey after winning both the Rolex race and the principal crown. After sailing to Sardinia from their base at Dartmouth, the Eclipse crew finished a worthy sixth in the world championship.

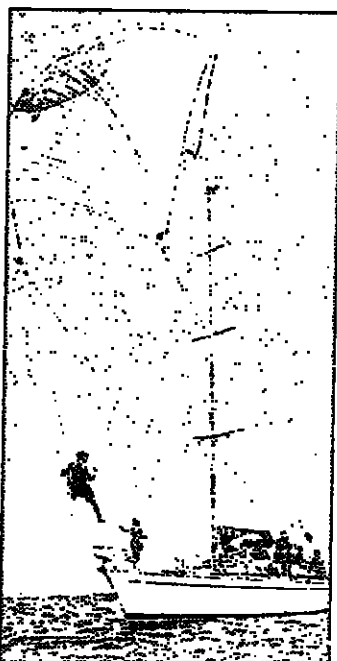
Mr Leadbetter plans to join Yachting World's race for cruisers across the Atlantic to the West Indies this winter before rounding off his sabbatical by competing in Antigua Week early next year. Will that have satisfied his sailing ambitions? "Oh no. I'm working towards buying a Swan 46. That's a classic yacht, and I would like it in time to defend the European championship next year," he says.

### ESSENTIALS

**SWAN 44 KWA NGEMA**  
Owner: Crispian Hotson  
Length overall: 44ft (13.4m)  
Waterline length: 34.65ft (10.6m)  
Beam: 13.71ft (4.18m)  
Draft: 8.2ft (2.5m)  
Sail area: 1,130.25sq ft (104sq m)  
Engine: Perkins 50hp diesel  
Designer: German Frers  
Price: £245,000 plus VAT  
**SWAN 391 ECLIPSE**  
Owner: Mike Leadbetter  
Length overall: 40ft (12.19m)  
Waterline length: 33.1ft (10.09m)  
Beam: 12.47ft (3.8m)  
Draft: 7.4ft (2.25m)  
Sail area: 982.85ft (91.3sq m)  
Engine: Perkins 40hp diesel  
Designer: Ron Holland  
Second-hand price: Approx £130,000 plus VAT  
UK importer: Nautor UK, 9 Cougar Quay, School Lane, Hamble, Southampton, SO3 5JD (0703 454890).



Racing hard: on Eclipse



Fun and games: on Kwa Ngema

## Rescue mission saves a Bluebird in distress

One of Sir Malcolm Campbell's less speedy craft, his motor yacht, has been brought back from France and restored to its former glory

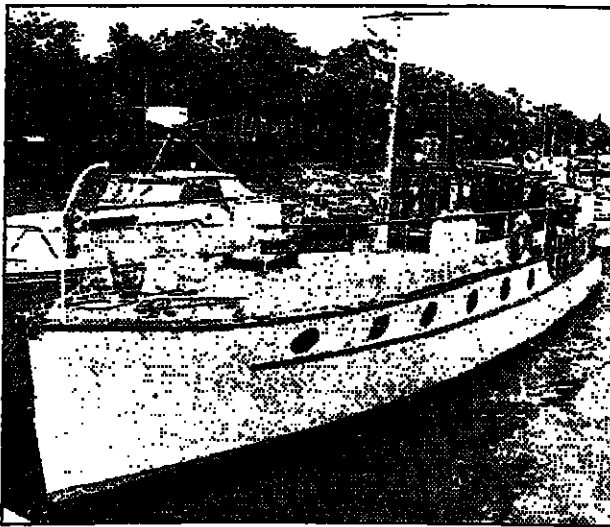
For most Britons aged 30 or more the name Bluebird strikes a particular chord. Images come drifting back of the doomed Sir Malcolm Campbell tearing across a lake or a salt pan in whatever projectile he was using that year to try to break a speed record. All of them were called Bluebird.

However, there was another craft of the same name owned by Campbell. Slower, more elegant and answering to a different need in his troubled soul, Campbell's motor yacht lives on, restored by Martin Summers, a London art dealer. "It was a Sunday afternoon in late November 1984 when it all started," Mr Summers recalls. "My four-year-old daughter, Tara, and I were strolling along Chelsea Embankment with some friends, admiring the boats moored at Cadogan Pier by Albert Bridge. The lights on the bridge had just come on, there was a spectacular sunset and I was thinking how beautiful it all was with the boats bobbing around on their moorings as if trying to keep warm. Suddenly, with the

spontaneity of a four-year-old, Tara asked: 'Daddy, why don't we have a boat?'" Mr Summers, then aged 46 and a prosperous dealer in Impressionist paintings, had no suitable answer. It was the beginning of a chain that was to lead him to a near-derelict Bluebird and her restoration. Campbell had commissioned the Thornycroft yard of Hampton Wick to build Bluebird II to his own specifications in 1932. Two years later he dreamt that a discarded cigarette caused her 100hp twin petrol engines to explode and put the 51ft launch up for sale.

It was exactly 50 years from that parting when Mr Summers saw Bluebird advertised for sale. With his friend Scott Beadle, a designer and boat buff, the new would-be owner travelled to the Grand du Bois in the Camargue to see the discarded mistress. Mr Summers describes the first visit in the book he has written about the history and restoration of the Bluebird.

He was bitter disappointed at Bluebird's "decrepit and sad" condition. "Rotting fab-



Shipshape: Bluebird is braving the open seas again

"She is recognised as something special by people who know nothing of her history"

ric and Formica with Heath Robinson wiring abounded." The story that follows will be familiar to any lover of old boats: a rational refusal to contemplate purchase, then a glass or two of something romance-inducing once aboard and the glimpse of an original mahogany locker. Mr Summers paid somewhat less than £15,000 for the boat but, as she limped back through the French waterways on one spluttering diesel, even that seemed excessive. Her

British home for more than a year of renovation was to be the Poole yard of Bernard Hiscock and Graham Titterton, H&T Marine. The hull was sound, but once it was stripped out a complex array of shores, beams and stretchers was necessary to help the old lady keep her shape. Plans of Bluebird had been published in *The Motorboat* at the time of her launch and working from these, plus early photographs of her taken from

Albert Bridge, the shipwrights were able to construct a new wheelhouse with additional windows aft and a large, sliding sunroof.

New teak decks were laid and, on the after deck where the dinghy once sat on chocks, wooden lockers were built to act as seating for an *al fresco* dining area. The Perkins diesels which had replaced the petrol engines of Campbell's nightmare were stripped and overhauled and powerful new generators installed, for Summers has a passion for light.

Below decks, even more work was called for. Modernity, such as a microwave/convection oven, combines with the Edwardian appeal of an inlaid mahogany bath, complete with brass taps. A full electronic navigation station went in, so too did colourful fabrics that Summers found in the Andes.

Since her permanent base, Cadogan Pier rather than the Camargue, can be a little chilly in winter, or in summer, come to that, a diesel-fuelled heating system has been installed. "We dine aboard with friends once a week on a deserted river and I treat her as a weekend cottage," Mr Summers says. Yet she is far more than an affluent man's Chelsea toy. The canals of The Netherlands and France have seen a great deal of Bluebird since her restoration. "Even

there, she is recognised as something special by people who know nothing of her history."

Mr Summers is the ideal man to follow in the wake of Campbell's expansive idiosyncrasies. "I should like to have obtained some of Campbell's original and distinctive Bluebird tableware but, when this was not to be, commissioned my own Limoges service," he writes.

Small wonder that the interior woodwork has 12 coats of varnish, each one rubbed down to give a glass-like finish. Bluebird's delivery voyage from Poole to the Thames showed that, although she was designed as an estuary cruiser, she was well able to handle the open sea. Since then she has encountered the worst of the North Sea and the waters around the Western Isles without mishap.

"I hope to enjoy her to the end of my days and to see a little more of the rivers and waterways of Europe every year," concludes Mr Summers, in an engaging book which is as much a testament to his passion as Bluebird herself.

KEITH WHEATLEY

● *Bluebird — A Dream of a Boat* will be published by Collector's Books on October 1.

### BRIEFING

## Working on the water holiday

FANCY a working holiday? The Inland Waterways Association (IWA), which campaigns for the retention and development of Britain's canal and river system, relies on volunteers for much of its restoration work and organises low-cost summer camps for people aged between 16 and 60.

With the support of the Countryside Commission, 18 camps have been organised this year to help clear locks and disused canals at places including Falkirk, Herefordshire, Lincolnshire, Shropshire, Somerset and Sussex. Each camp is limited to about 20 workers, together with leaders and cook. Accommodation is basic, invariably a village hall.

However, John Baylis, vice-chairman of the Waterways Recovery Group, which organises the camps, says: "With plenty of fresh air, hard work and good food, even a wooden floor can be comfortable."

● Details from: John Baylis, Waterways Recovery Group, 25 Bedford Avenue, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG18 3AD (0602 493143).



chairman, says: "We want to make a big impact. October is the ideal time to carry out this task because it allows us to clear an entire summer's debris."

● Details from: Neil Edwards, Inland Waterways Association, 114 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 1RL (071 586 2510).

### Free advice

FOR people interested in buying a boat, finding a mooring or taking a holiday afloat, the British Marine Industries Federation operates a free boating advice service. ● Boatline is on 0932 845890.

### Blitz creek

THE Inland Waterways Association is also organising a blitz to clear the country's waterways and towpaths of litter over the weekend of October 20-21. Its 32 branches, numerous canal societies, boat clubs and other canal-orientated associations will be mending clear-ups in their areas. David Stevenson, the IWA



City Editor John Bell

## BUSINESS

## Power shares to be paired

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT  
FINANCIAL EDITOR

SHARES in PowerGen will be paired with those of National Power, the bigger of the two specialist electricity generating groups, in a single £3 billion-plus sale. If their flotation goes according to schedule in February.

On present plans, revived after the abandonment of a trade sale for PowerGen, institutions and overseas investors will be offered a security that initially combines shares in the two companies, though each will immediately have its own separate quotation.

The government's advisers are also likely to recommend that the two companies be sold as a pair to private investors - for the first time. In the water sell-off, the public chose individual shares while institutions were offered a package. This pattern is likely to be repeated in the sale of the 12 electricity distribution companies, set for November, but the generators are not local supply companies.

Negotiations are still continuing between the government and National Power over its capital structure. The government is pressing for an equivalent settlement to that agreed with PowerGen. The two companies are expected to be sold with similar dividend cover and on a similar, if not identical, share ratings.

Comment, page 33

## Boost for THF budget move

Trusthouse Forte, Britain's biggest hotelier and caterer, is gearing up its drive into the budget hotels sector through a deal with Bass, Britain's biggest brewer, which owns the Holiday Inn chain.

THF will thereby also add to its roadside restaurants under the banners of Little Chef and Happy Eater. The deal, involving 17 Kelly's Kitchen restaurant outlets, is believed to be worth about £10 million because THF will be gaining a "significant" number of sites that can be used to expand its Travelodge chain of budget hotels.

Some Kelly's Kitchen outlets have sufficient space to take a Travelodge and there are several greenfield sites acquired by Bass for expansion of a chain of Highway Lodges.

## THE POUND

US dollar 1.9440 (-0.0075)  
W German mark 3.0393 (+0.0079)  
Exchange index 97.0 (+0.1)

## STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1616.8 (+12.6)  
FT-SE 100 2086.4 (+11.4)  
New York Dow Jones 2495.54 (+12.12)  
Tokyo Nikkei Ave 24165.76 (+428.13)  
Closing Prices ... Page 36

Major indices and major changes Page 33

## INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base 15%  
3-month interbank 14 1/2%  
3-month eligible bill 14 1/2%  
US: Prime Rate 10%  
Federal Funds 8%  
3-month Treasury Bills 7.50-7.65%  
30-year bonds 9 1/2%-9 3/4%

## CURRENCIES

London: New York  
£/\$ 1.9440  
£/DM 2.0098  
£/Sfr 2.4619  
£/FF 10.1622  
£/Yen 254.70  
£/Index 97.0  
ECU 10.6638/34  
ECU 10.6257

## GOLD

London Fixing:  
AM \$412.00 pm \$410.20  
close \$410.75-411.25 (2210-25)  
New York:  
Comex \$412.40-412.90

## NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Oct 1) \$30.10cbl (\$30.65)  
Denotes latest trading price

## TOURIST RATES

Bank	Bank
Australia \$	2.24
Austria Sch	22.70
Belgium Fr	23.36
Canada \$	2.25
Denmark Kr	12.08
Finland Mk	7.25
France Fr	10.64
Germany DM	2.46
Greece Dr	334
Hong Kong \$	10.64
Ireland P	11.7
Italy Lira	2.24
Japan Yen	236.2
Netherlands Gld	2.25
Norway Kr	11.71
Portugal Esc	200
South Africa Rd	2.25
Spain Ptas	166
Sweden Kr	11.71
Switzerland Fr	2.25
Turkey Lira	2.25
USA \$	2.25
Yugoslavia Dnr	2.25

Notes for small denominations are only as supplied by Barclay's Bank PLC. Denotes rate apply to travellers cheques.  
Retail Price Index: 126.8 (July)

## Swedish group boosts TDG stake in raid

By STEPHEN LEATHER

PROVENTUS, the Swedish group, mounted a dawn raid on Transport Development Group, the road haulage and storage company, yesterday and snapped up a 7 per cent stake.

Proventus paid about 196p for the shares, which were trading at 245p at the start of the year and were at 293p a year ago.

It now has a 9.9 per cent holding in TDG, which last month announced pre-tax profits down from £19.8 million to £17.8 million for the six months to end-June. TDG

shares closed at 195p, up 8p on the day.

Proventus is controlled by the Weil family and in the past has operated in tandem with Peter Gyllenhammar, the Swedish entrepreneur whose Mercurius Group is busy pouring cash into a range of troubled companies across Europe.

Mr Gyllenhammar, aged 37, was unavailable for comment yesterday but Raymond Garwood, TDG's company secretary, said: "They are arbitrageurs and this is something they do quite regularly when they

see a situation which they think might be to their advantage."

The dominant shareholder in Proventus is Robert Weil, its chairman, aged 38. Last night Proventus confirmed that it now had 14.4 million TDG shares and that it had "no present intention of making an offer for the company".

In the Proventus annual report and accounts the company says its business concept "is to provide value-added by implementing changes in companies whose commercial potential increases in a

different structure. Proventus is able to put this concept into effect in its role as an active owner in a few, large projects.

"Investments are not limited to any particular industry or market. Proventus benefits from value added in the form of current earnings and/or profits when an investment is eventually sold."

Proventus failed to benefit from value-added when it linked up with Mr Gyllenhammar's Stockholm-based industrial and investment conglomerate, Mercurius Group, to

take a 5.03 per cent stake in Coloroll, the troubled home-furnishings group, shortly before the receivers were called in.

Mercurius Group recently lifted its stake in Phoenix Timber to 29.3 per cent and also has a 16.03 per cent stake in Chloride, the battery group. Mercurius also has a 43.9 per cent stake in a property company, Accura, which is run by Mr Gyllenhammar's brother, Frederick, and which in March launched an agreed £22 million bid for City Gate Estates, the property group.

## Chief of Laura Ashley to quit

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

JOHN James, the chief executive of Laura Ashley, the troubled home furnishings and fashion retailer, is to resign.

A spokesman for the company said that Mr James, who is expected to receive a golden handshake, was leaving by mutual consent.

Mr James, who is holidaying in the south of France, was not available for comment. His resignation takes effect from September 1. He has been with the group for 15 years and joined as chief accountant when the company was still a fledgling with 12 shops and an annual turnover of £2 million.

Mike Smith, who is chairman of the British retail division and managing director of LA Industries, is to become acting chief executive. The Laura Ashley board intends to appoint a chief executive from outside the group in due course.

The company has been experiencing difficulties over the past few years and Mr James had been expected to leave at some stage.

Laura Ashley made a loss of nearly £10 million for the year to January and had borrowings of about £100 million.

The financial future of the company is now secure after a dispute between the group's 11 bankers, which threatened the future of the company, was resolved last month and a loan facility of £115 million was put in place.

But there is concern about the timing of Mr James's resignation, just before the interim results are announced next month.

One retail analyst said: "It does make you wonder why they have announced this just before the interim results and why they have not been able to announce a permanent replacement."

"Mike Smith is now going to be wearing three different hats which may mean that he finds himself stretched," he added.

The shares were unchanged at 47p.

## No need to use stocks says energy agency

By MARTIN BARROW AND GEORGE SIVELL

THE International Energy Agency, which has the power to enforce oil sharing among industrialised nations if there is a serious shortfall, said yesterday it sees no need for a drawdown of strategic stocks at this stage.

The Paris-based agency, structured round members of the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, said that it expects higher oil production in September to help meet demand now being covered by commercial stocks and short-haul crude deliveries.

The statement came as the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries prepared for an informal meeting in Vienna tomorrow to consider increasing output quotas to compensate for the 4 million barrels of oil normally exported by Iraq and Kuwait.

Before the meeting and the bank holiday weekend in Britain, oil traders marked prices down from Thursday's 13-year highs. In London, October Brent shed 72 cents to \$59.80 a barrel, at one stage

falling below \$30. American crude futures fell 63 cents to \$31.30 a barrel.

Sterling enjoyed another firm day, with the pound's trade-weighted index rising 0.1 to 97.0. Against the mark it moved up to DM3.0336 from Thursday's close of DM3.0211. The pound slipped 0.75 cents to close at \$1.9440.

Dealers said investors had bought dollars for the weekend, particularly after reports that the American embassy in Kuwait was surrounded by Iraqi troops. But dealers also remain nervous over the prospect of an American recession.

Traders said although Britain's oil currency status and 15 per cent interest rates are still attracting overseas investors, much of the current strength is a result of the weakness of other currencies. Most cling to predictions that sterling could reach \$2 next week.

Confusion reigned over which nations planned to attend the Opec meeting, which is open to all 13 members. Just seven, Algeria, Ecuador, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Nigeria and Venezuela, have confirmed they will send

delegates. No answer has been received from Iraq.

It was unclear whether Saudi Arabia, which has been seeking Opec approval to raise production, would attend the meeting, where countries opposed to increasing quotas are expected to be in a majority.

These include Algeria, Iran and Indonesia, which are already operating close to capacity and want industrial nations to consume their present stocks before output is increased any further. But Venezuela, which has surplus pumping capacity, has sided firmly with Saudi Arabia and is ready to raise production without agreement.

However, the gathering in Vienna lacks the formal status to sanction production increases and a second meeting would almost certainly be necessary before Saudi Arabia would receive Opec approval.

The slip in oil prices was accompanied by a recovery in world stock markets after the battering of the past week.

The FT-SE 100 index closed up 11.4 at 2,086.4 after an overnight 428.13-point recovery by the Nikkei stock average in Tokyo to 24,165.76.

## Nadir is rapped by ISE



Bid approach withdrawn after 'pressure from institutions': Asil Nadir of Polly Peck

By MICHAEL TATE, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

ASIL Nadir, chairman of Polly Peck International, the fruit distributing to electronics group, has been sharply criticised by the International Stock Exchange over his handling of events surrounding his proposal this month to take the group private, and its subsequent withdrawal.

Details of the ISE's findings are being passed on to the Takeover Panel, the DTI and the City Fraud Squad.

In a lengthy statement last night the ISE's Quotations Panel accused Mr Nadir of falling short of normal standards, of ignoring advice from financial advisers, and of putting "undue pressure" on the rest of his board.

In response Mr Nadir last night declared that he "noted" the findings and that the company was "committed to ensuring the long term maximisation of shareholders' values and will continue to work towards this end".

Mr Nadir, who is Polly Peck's biggest shareholder with 26 per cent, disclosed a fortnight ago that he was thinking of buying the rest of the group as he felt the shares were undervalued by the City. His remarks added 50p to the share price at 448p, valuing the entire business at some £2.2 billion.

On Friday, August 17, Mr Nadir withdrew his bid approach, claiming he had bowed to pressure from institutional investors who were unhappy about the plan to take the group private.

The announcement caused the share price to plunge by 25 per cent to 305p, with some 18 million shares changing hands on the day. Last night Polly Peck shares were trading at 310p.

Among Polly Peck's biggest institutional shareholders are Friends Provident, with 4.5 per cent, Standard Life with 3

per cent, Prudential, University Superannuation and Legal & General, with between 2 and 3 per cent apiece.

The ISE says the fact that Mr Nadir had instructed only one professional adviser, namely a firm of lawyers that had never apparently acted for the company before, indicated "a lack of preparation to normal standards".

It also describes his formal approach to the Polly Peck board as "premature and unrealistic", and suggests that any consultation with financial advisers would have advised him so.

Mr Nadir had consulted JO Hambro Magan, the boutique corporate finance house, but the report indicates that only informal discussions had taken place.

The ISE also found that the absence of the company's brokers from the board meeting called last week was "particularly significant" given that one of the main reasons for calling the meeting and tabling the proposal was "to avoid the creation of a false market".

There are few sanctions available to the ISE when it is unhappy with the actions of quoted companies. Other than rapping them over the knuckles, it can only suspend or delist the shares, which is often not in the interest of the majority of shareholders.

The report adds that the terms of Mr Nadir's announcement did not highlight, to the extent that they should have done, the fact that the proposals were still at a preliminary stage.

Polly Peck has been one of the biggest success stories in corporate history. It was a loss-making clothes company until Mr Nadir moved in during the 1970s, and built it into one of the world's largest distributors of fruit.

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Invesco slips 8.5% on strength of sterling

INVESCO MIM, the former Britannia Arrow fund management group, suffered an 8.5 per cent drop in profits to £15.1 million in the first half of the year because of the strength of the pound against the dollar. The interim dividend is being held at 2.3p. The company said the dollar's weakness had cut pre-tax profits by £1.2 million despite an underlying rise in earnings at its American subsidiary.

The company also blamed heavy spending on marketing for the fall in profits. In Britain, a concerted advertising campaign has made MIM Britannia the market leader in Personal Equity Plan sales. In America, Invesco is carrying the cost of branch openings. Funds under management grew by 9 per cent to £24 billion. In dollar terms, the rise was 34 per cent. Invesco also made a £1.09 million profit on disposals from its £44 million investment portfolio.

## Losses soar at Adidas

LOSSES at Adidas, the West German sports goods company, have increased from DM9.3 million to DM11.2 million. The scale of the losses, due to rising costs, was expected. Turnover last year was DM1.01 billion (DM921.6 million). Bernard Tapie, the French businessman, has taken over Adidas with the aim of improving the financial position.

## Paper offer in Australia

ROBERT Holmes a Court, the Australian businessman, has offered to buy the Daily News, the Perth afternoon newspaper, for A\$250,000 (£107,300). The bid is for the masthead only and includes an offer of jobs for the majority of the paper's staff. But it excludes the estimated A\$14 million debt in the books of Community Newspapers, the parent company.

## Bimec seeks full listing

BIMEC Industries, the pollution control, air conditioning and aerospace group, is to move to the main market on August 30 after seven years on the USM. Bimec is one of the few firms to have started as a greenfield venture in the early years of the market and survived, although only a rescue refinancing and new management saved it from disaster in 1987. Bimec made pre-tax profits of £2.77 million last year. Sam Smith, chairman, said the company had planned to make the move after the end of this financial year to end-March. But it had decided to bring it forward after the USM reforms announced last year.

## Handley falls to £755,000

HANDLEY-Walker Group, the USM-quoted management consultancy company, has announced a 20 per cent decline in interim pre-tax profits to £755,000 for the six months to end-June. Turnover was £6.3 million, a 21 per cent improvement on the previous year. Earnings per share were 7.4p (9.5p). The interim dividend is unchanged at 3p.

## Cargo rises to £454,000

A £1 million container order from Kuwait Air that had not been delivered by the time of the Iraqi invasion cast a shadow over the near 800 per cent rise in pre-tax profits from Cargo Control, the cargo equipment maker. Profits for the half year to end-June were £454,000 (£51,000). Turnover was £4.96 million (£568,000) and the dividend 0.5p (nil).

## Loss at Dawsonsgroup

DAWSONSGROUP, the truck rental company which came to market in 1988, has reported its first loss as a public company. During the first six months of the year, it made a pre-tax loss of £483,000 against a restated £1.7 million profit for the comparable period last year and £3 million in 1988. Turnover was almost unchanged at £24.3 million.

Peter Dawson, the chairman, said the company is facing "the worst ever downturn in the short-term truck rental market." Almost all Dawsonsgroup's main clients have required fewer vehicles during period, resulting in lower fleet utilisation. There is no interim dividend.

## US recession fears grow

From SUSAN ELLICOTT in WASHINGTON

IN A sign that the American economy was slowing even before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the commerce department reported that its country's gross national product grew a slower-than-expected 1.2 per cent in the second quarter of this year.

The weak figure further strengthened the growing view of some economists that the American economy is heading towards a recession, beset by the prospect of higher inflation arising from higher oil prices.

The Gulf confrontation has cast international oil and stock markets into turmoil, doubling the price of crude since June to almost \$32 per barrel this week.

The commerce department

said the growth figure for between April and June reflected widespread weakness in the American economy. Financial analysts were expecting an upward revision from an initial report a month ago.

The dollar, battered in recent weeks by the increasing tension, was mixed against leading foreign currencies. The latest economic statistics showed an upward revision of consumer spending and exports, offset by weaker inventories than previously reported. GNP-related inflation was left unchanged at an annualized rate of 3.9 per cent.

On Wall Street, share prices rose yesterday, marking a recovery in the Dow Jones industrial average from its

lowest level this week since early July.

Since Iraq's invasion of Kuwait the American public has grown increasingly negative about the possibility of avoiding a recession despite a prediction by James Brady, the treasury secretary, that higher oil prices and inflation will merely halve economic growth from an estimated 1.5 per cent to 0.75 per cent.

An opinion poll published yesterday by the *New York Times* and *CBS News* found that six in ten Americans now believe their country is in a recession. The national mood is the most despondent since the early Eighties when the United States plunged into its worst post-war economic downturn.

## Treasury may have £300m business rates windfall

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE Treasury will receive a windfall bonus of at least £300 million due to the switch to the new business rating system, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy said yesterday.

The CIPFA, the professional body for town hall treasurers, has calculated that the growth of new businesses in England and Wales in the last eight months will have boosted the yield from business rates by at least 3 per cent.

The new uniform business rate is collected locally, but the proceeds are paid into a central pool before being redistributed to councils using a nat-

ionally determined formula. Research by Jonathan McLeod, assistant editor of the Institute's official journal, suggests that income to the central pool this year will be at least £313 million more than the £10.4 billion councils are due to receive from it.

He said that if the surplus was carried forward to next year it would cut the amount the Treasury needed to contribute to next year's revenue support grant for councils.

Ministers could then fulfil their commitment, given last month, to boost external finance to councils by 12.8 per

cent at an actual cost of only 9 per cent to the taxpayer.

Alternatively the "bonus" could be used to help industry and commerce by keeping next year's increase in the business rate below inflation.

The government has power to increase the business rate by up to the inflation level which, by the time a decision is taken in November, could well be at 10 per cent.

A Treasury spokesman yesterday described the institute's figures as "pure speculation", but senior sources said that any surplus was almost certain to be ploughed back into the local authority system.

## Dan-Air hits turbulence amid bid talks

By NEIL BENNETT



Newman: shares plunge

DAVIES & Newman, the owner of Dan-Air, Britain's second biggest charter airline, was forced to reassure customers yesterday that its operations were continuing as normal during bid talks.

Davies' share price plunged from 325p to a low of 170p after a *Daily Telegraph* report yesterday that the airline was in "crisis talks" with the Civil Aviation Authority. This followed an earlier report in *The Times* that Dan-Air, which operates 51 aircraft, was talking to the CAA and moving its

head office to Gatwick to cut costs.

The shares later recovered to close at 255p, down 70p on the day. Despite the violent swings, only 15,000 shares were traded.

A statement to the International Stock Exchange from Berings, the company's merchant bank, said: "Davies & Newman is in talks with a number of parties relating to the future of the company and its subsidiaries. Meanwhile, it wishes to stress that business continues as usual."

The statement also said that Dan-Air was "undertaking a

review of its operations with the intention of enhancing efficiencies". This included the relocation of the head office to Horley, near Gatwick.

The company, whose chairman is Fred Newman, refused to comment further on the negotiations.

Earlier, British Midland Airways was reported to be interested in making an offer but negotiations are thought to have failed. Virgin Group holds a 3.4 per cent stake.

A spokesman for the CAA said its talks with Dan-Air were routine. The CAA is said

to have questioned the airline on its plans to establish a business network in Europe.

"If the situation arose that we were unhappy with the company's financial status, we would withdraw its licences," he said.

Four charter airlines have collapsed within the last year because of a slump in holiday traffic. They are: British Island Airways, Novair, Paramount and Capital. All, like Dan-Air, banked with Lloyds.

Dan-Air recently announced it was selling at least five planes to cope with the fall in charter traffic.



# How to beat the market slump

## COMMENT

GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Since the invasion of Kuwait, share prices have fallen taking prices down from the top of the FT-SE index range of 2,400 to 2,100 for the third time in 12 months. In New York, where there was previously more of an uptrend, prices have fallen half as much again. In Tokyo, the rising oil price has accelerated a downturn since the beginning of the year, doubling losses to more than 35 per cent.

The downward momentum looks strong before any fighting between Iraq and the West. But economists seem remarkably agreed that the oil price shock, would not of itself prove disastrous for world economic growth or even inflation, unless prices rise much further. If the momentum is mostly caused by fear, then brave investors might start to finger their chequebooks. The surest rule of reading trends is that it is much easier to spot the top of a bull market surge than the bottom of a bear market slump. Investors and fund managers who brilliantly liquidated their positions, just

before prices turn down, rarely perform well over the medium term because they fail to reinvest when prices turn up.

The virtue of "averaging", by investing steadily regardless of short-term market trends, may be dismissed as a cynical marketing ploy. But there is sense in it for big institutions as well as private savers, especially while prices are volatile.

Many City fund managers have, like the private investor, become hooked on short-term performance. They will therefore have to start asking themselves if anything has really changed.

In Tokyo, it clearly has, since the share price collapse, basically caused by rising interest rates, has gone so far so fast that it endangers parts of the financial system.

In Britain, still a net exporter of oil, the main change has been to the exchange rate. The sharp rise in sterling will have a much more important impact than

usual if, as expected, it is about to be locked permanently into a parity against the mark.

Once the higher level of the pound is believed, forecasts of profits for the high proportion of the top 100 companies that now have substantial hard-currency earnings will be downgraded. But this is a once-and-for-all cut and in nearly all cases will be well below 10 per cent. At home, the high pound will be bad for many chemical, engineering and textile producers, but will not harm the bulk of food, drink and basic consumer products groups or utilities such as gas or water.

A prolonged war, such as in Korea, would bring inflation way beyond oil prices and change economic prospects. But this

remains unlikely. Political turmoil has little long-term effect on share prices. On that script, the traditional domestic defensive stocks will again prove good long-term value, for those prepared to stand short-term paper losses.

## Power play

Electricity shares would come firmly into the solid non-panic category if they were quoted. Punters might well be buying British Coal for recovery. As it is, the intended privatisation of the electricity supply industry has resolved one uncertainty only to meet another.

As a stalking horse, Lord

Hanson proved useful to the taxpayer in persuading PowerGen to accept £270 million of debt, assuring a similar proportionate settlement with National Power. The mooted buyouts have also drawn much interest from institutions well beyond Legal & General, which was prepared to put its head above the parapet.

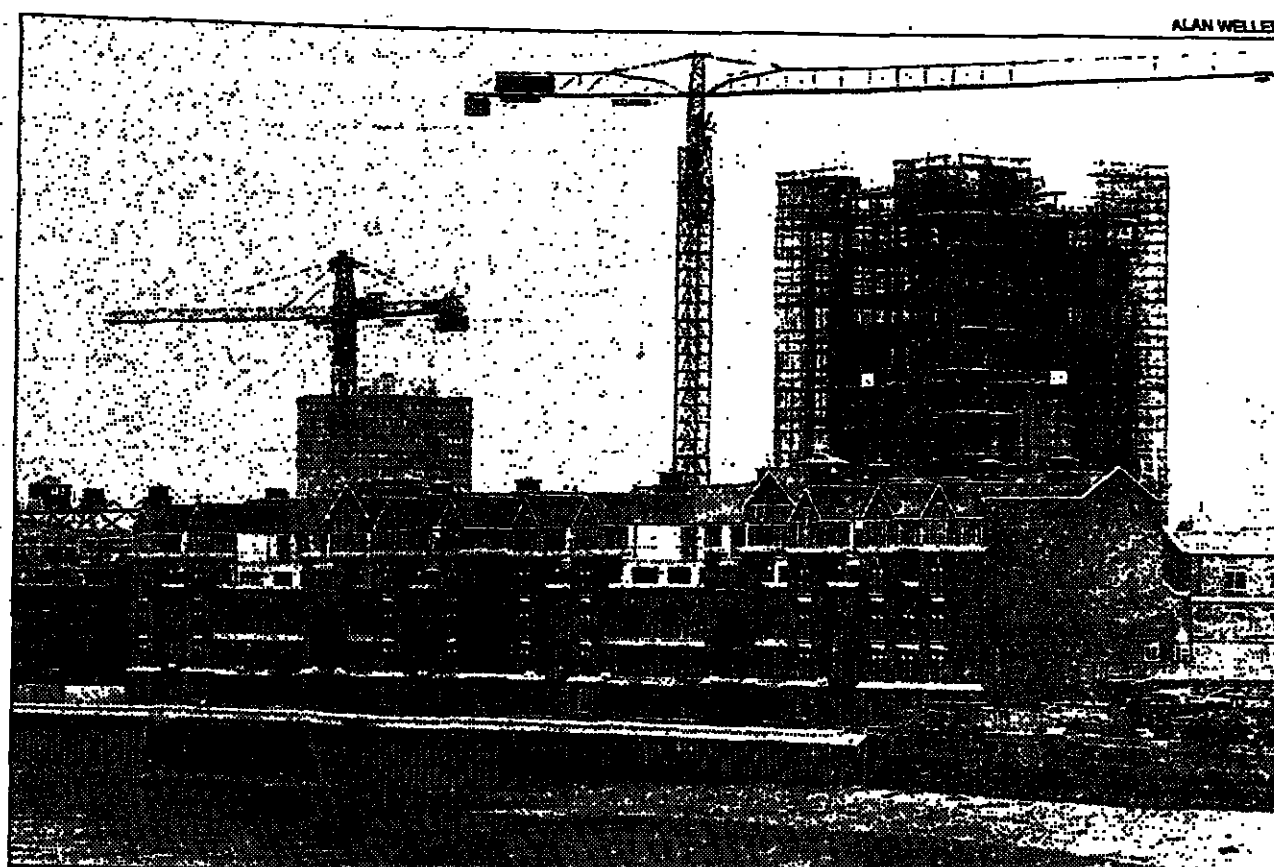
The PowerGen management has ever so discreetly been able to sell itself more vigorously than might otherwise have been the case. PowerGen, once thought the Cinderella of a joint flotation with National Power, may therefore help to sell its bigger rival. The two are almost certain to be sold to institutions together, more like a competitor in a three-legged race than a package. They will have similar dividend cover, possibly 2.5 to 3 times, similar capital structures and virtually the same rating.

Selling to the public may not be so easy, since Lord Hanson's

withdrawal will not be seen as a bull point even if it was triggered by the tax factors.

If private investors are to be persuaded to dip into their pockets twice in three months to buy bits of the same industry, the state of the stock market and the fate of the financially more important sales of the 12 distribution companies will be crucial. That makes it doubly important that the disco sale, if it goes ahead in November, should be a popular success.

At present, most small investors in gas or water will feel, rightly or wrongly, that the stock market is not a good place to put money. This can easily change over the next two months. The government is likely to go ahead with the disco sale if the FT-SE index does not fall below 2,000 in the meantime. If share prices stabilise and fear fades from the front pages, there could easily be a rebound, as there was between the pricing and sale of water shares. Otherwise, the public is likely to boycott both sales, so wise advisers will keep their options open until the last moment.



Latest victim: Part of the Plantation Wharf development at Battersea, South London, owned by Broadwell Land

## Receivers are called in at both Broadwell Land and Citygrove

By COLIN CAMPBELL AND MICHAEL TATE

RECEIVERS were called into two property companies yesterday, Broadwell Land and Citygrove.

Broadwell Land, the unlisted securities market quoted property developer, which is heavily involved in the Plantation Wharf development in Battersea, South London, has asked its bankers to appoint Arthur Andersen as receiver.

The group added that Richard and Mark Green had resigned as executive directors. Broadwell shares were last traded at 17p before their suspension.

A year ago they traded at 245p, and the group came to market in July 1988, after an offer for sale of 7 million shares at 155p each. The offer was more than seven times over-subscribed.

Broadwell has of late been hit by financing problems, and in June said it was in talks with an institution. It was thought to have been seeking a cash injection of £20 million.

This month Broadwell said talks about a cash injection

had failed. The new funds were needed following the default by a buyer who had agreed to buy part of its Plantation Wharf development.

Broadwell's problems were compounded by the loss of a £4 million deposit which was forfeited by the proposed buyer who defaulted.

The company is the latest among a line of property developers to be hit by the property recession and high interest rates.

Broadwell said it had failed to secure a £36 million refinancing package concerning the second phase of its Plantation Wharf development, but the receivers said that they are optimistic that the long term future of Plantation Wharf will not be adversely affected.

Citygrove, the edge-of-town shopping centre developer, last night named JPMG Peat Marwick McLintock as receiver, appointed by the group's bankers, the Co-op Bank in Manchester.

Debts, which totalled about

£36 million at the last balance sheet date of November 30, 1989, are now thought to be substantially higher.

Geoffrey Almeida, brought in as finance director last December, said the group had fallen foul of the total lack of a property market. He added: "We have not made a single sale since I've been here."

Citygrove is involved in a number of "very big retail park schemes" but in prevailing conditions has been unable to interest buyers.

Although Harris Queensway had shown interest in one of the company's developments, Mr Almeida denied that the firming group's demise was in any way connected with Citygrove's collapse.

"I must say the bank has been extremely supportive during the last few months as we tried to keep the company afloat, but in the end we had to take a view on the property market," said Mr Almeida.

Citygrove's 1,000 or so shareholders are unlikely to

receive any return. Dealings in the shares had been frozen earlier in the day. Mr Almeida joined Citygrove in December, with Ernest Sheavills, formerly of Ladbroke.

But the first sign that things were wrong surfaced in March this year when the final dividend for the year to November 1989 was asked, and changes were made in the company's accounting policy that severely reduced stated profits for the year ended November 1988.

Last month David Woolf, who founded the company 20 years ago and brought it to the market in 1986, warned shareholders to expect substantial losses for the six months to end-May, and promptly resigned as executive chairman and chief executive.

Shares in Citygrove, floated in 1986, touched 395p before the October 1987 crash, and earlier this year were changing hands at 135p. By the time they were suspended they had sunk to just 5p, and today they are almost certainly worthless.

## Queen bee returns to hive

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

IRENE Stein, founder, former chairman and queen bee of Regina Health and Beauty, which markets royal jelly as a health product, is set to make a return to the USM-quoted company from which she was ousted in a boardroom coup last November.

Mrs Stein is returning on October 1 as a consultant for a £40,000 salary. She has the backing of a consortium of investors headed by TC Coombes, the stockbroker, which has put together a rescue package for the group. TC Coombes has underwritten a five-for-two rights issue that is expected to save the company from impending bankruptcy. Mrs Stein is not taking up her rights and her 29.4 per cent will fall back to 10 per cent. David Tent will remain chairman of Regina.

Regina was in decline before Mrs Stein's departure. The shares, having hit a high of 93p in 1987, fell to 17p in November and costs doubled. But since she left, the company's affairs have gone from bad to worse. The share price is now 2 1/2p and Gerry Simler, the finance director, who took over as chairman after Mrs Stein's departure, has left.

Despite her year away, Mrs Stein has lost none of her enthusiasm for the company or its product, to which she was introduced by a Greek



Buzzing with enthusiasm: Irene Stein, royal jelly fan

beekeeper 15 years ago. She will take a special interest in marketing the jelly, which is produced by worker bees and fed to queen bees.

Devotees of the product,

which is said to help everything from arthritis to acne, include the Princess of Wales, the Millwall football team, Cliff Richard, Barbara Cartland, the novelist, and Mrs

Thatcher's cat. But since Mrs Stein's departure, less has been heard of the celebrities who use the jelly.

She intends to promote the product in different ways and is considering the possibility of direct selling and multi-level marketing, where agents take orders for the product from friends and acquaintances.

"There is great potential for the product," says Mrs Stein. "It is the ideal product in times of stress. I think we were marketing it in the wrong way before. There's a lot of potential for direct selling to the public. We may need to market royal jelly direct to the public and through the shops using two different brands."

Having overcome the initial shock of losing her company, Mrs Stein has not been idle in her year away from Regina. In addition to "building her dream home", she has been working on two books, one on lifestyle, to help promote royal jelly, and the other the story of the intrigues at Regina at the time of her departure.

She has also been investigating other natural products and considering the possibility of using royal jelly as an agricultural aid to increase milk and egg production. But at a cost of about £40 for a monthly human supply, it may be an unaffordable luxury for most cows.

## WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily ch/g (%)	Yearly ch/g (%)	Daily ch/g (%)	Yearly ch/g (%)	Daily ch/g (%)	Yearly ch/g (%)
The World	556.4	1.1	-34.0	1.4	-22.4	1.1	-20.1
(free)	106.1	1.1	-34.2	1.4	-22.6	1.1	-20.3
EAPE	974.5	1.4	-37.4	1.5	-27.9	1.3	-24.3
(free)	99.8	1.4	-37.8	1.3	-28.3	1.2	-24.7
Europe	609.0	0.9	-19.8	1.1	-15.3	0.8	-9.9
(free)	131.1	0.8	-19.8	0.8	-15.5	0.8	-9.9
Nth America	391.0	0.7	-27.3	0.7	-12.2	0.7	-12.0
Nordic	1272.5	0.3	-18.2	0.6	-9.2	0.3	-1.0
(free)	208.0	0.0	-13.3	0.3	-4.1	0.0	4.9
Pacific	2089.3	1.8	-47.3	1.7	-35.5	1.7	-36.2
Far East	2993.5	2.0	-48.3	1.9	-36.5	1.9	-37.4
Australia	273.6	-1.3	-21.2	-1.8	-37.7	-1.4	-4.6
Austria	1367.2	-1.0	-8.0	-0.5	2.3	-1.0	11.4
Belgium	702.6	0.2	-28.6	0.7	-22.6	0.2	-13.6
Canada	435.6	-0.1	-27.5	-0.4	-14.3	-0.2	-12.2
Denmark	1126.3	-0.8	-14.1	-0.7	-6.4	-0.9	3.6
Finland	80.6	-0.7	-30.4	-0.4	-23.3	-0.8	-15.4
(free)	105.6	-0.1	-29.2	0.2	-22.2	-0.2	-14.2
France	596.0	3.3	-26.4	3.8	-19.7	3.2	-10.9
Germany	722.0	1.1	-21.3	1.6	-12.6	1.1	-4.7
Hong Kong	1867.6	1.8	-15.8	1.5	-1.6	1.5	2.0
Italy	282.3	-1.1	-26.8	-0.9	-19.3	-1.2	-11.3
Japan	3138.2	2.0	-49.1	1.9	-37.9	1.9	-38.4
Netherlands	788.8	-0.2	-27.5	0.1	-17.3	-0.5	-4.4
New Zealand	72.1	-1.7	-30.0	-1.4	-20.0	-1.8	-15.3
Norway	1303.3	-0.8	-2.9	-0.4	7.3	-0.9	17.8
(free)	234.3	-0.8	0.3	-0.3	10.8	-0.8	21.4
Singapore	1405.6	2.2	-29.5	2.4	-20.2	2.2	-14.7
Spain	165.0	0.3	-30.3	0.3	-25.8	0.2	-15.6
Sweden	1384.8	1.4	-21.0	1.7	-11.6	1.3	-4.4
(free)	200.2	1.4	-17.3	1.8	-7.4	1.4	0.1
Switzerland	755.0	1.9	-17.8	2.8	-17.7	1.8	0.0
(free)	113.3	1.9	-18.8	2.8	-19.1	1.8	-1.7
UK	620.0	0.6	-14.0	0.6	-14.0	0.5	4.1
USA	351.2	0.8	-27.3	0.8	-12.0	0.8	-12.0

(B) Local currency.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

## ALPHA STOCKS

Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000	Vol '000
ADT 728	Cookson 1,979	Lorion 235	Shall 3,911
Abbey Nat 1,291	Courtaulds 1,306	Lucas 2,116	Siebel 203
Bank of India 563	Dunlop 1,500	MSA 2,571	Stag 351
Bank of London 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Montreal 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of New York 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Paris 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Rome 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Spain 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Sweden 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Switzerland 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of the Netherlands 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Belgium 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Luxembourg 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Greece 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Portugal 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Turkey 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Iran 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Iraq 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Kuwait 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Bahrain 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Oman 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Qatar 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Brunei 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Malaysia 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Singapore 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Hong Kong 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Taiwan 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of South Korea 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Japan 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of China 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of India 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Pakistan 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Bangladesh 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Sri Lanka 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Nepal 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Bhutan 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Maldives 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Seychelles 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Mauritius 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Reunion 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Mayotte 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Comoros 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Madagascar 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Mauritania 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Mali 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Niger 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Chad 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Cameroon 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Gabon 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Congo 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Zaire 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Angola 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Namibia 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Botswana 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Lesotho 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Swaziland 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Zimbabwe 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of South Africa 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Mozambique 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Zambia 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Malawi 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Tanzania 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Kenya 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Uganda 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Rwanda 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Burundi 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Togo 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Benin 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Ivory Coast 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Ghana 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276
Bank of Nigeria 563	Emmott 1,500	MSA 2,571	Smith & N 3,276







**The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading**

**16 Golden Square, London W1**



Fund	bid price	offer price	1 month perf rank	1 year perf rank
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# Portfolio

**PLATINUM**  
From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add these prices to your running total for the week and check this against the weekly dividend figure on this page. If it matches the figure, you have won outright or a share of the total weekly prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming. Claim rates appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Share Price
1	Vintners	Industrials S-Z	175
2	Land Sec (as)	Property	175
3	Howard Hides	Building Roads	175
4	Steady Chart (as)	Bank, Discount	175
5	Boots (as)	Industrials A-D	175
6	Hunting	Industrials E-K	175
7	HK Shanghai	Bank, Discount	175
8	NSM	Building Roads	175
9	W. Portland	Property	175
10	W. Foster	Industrials S-Z	175
11	Br. Lead (as)	Property	175
12	Pr. Marins	Property	175
13	BAT (as)	Tobacco	175
14	Morison (John)	Building Roads	175
15	Black (Peter)	Industrials A-D	175
16	Wolfrum & D	Breweries	175
17	Burrows (as)	Bank, Discount	175
18	Lambert	Textiles	175
19	Shenstone	Industrials S-Z	175
20	Lex Service	Motor, Aircraft	175
21	Reed Int (as)	Newspapers, Pub	175
22	Young 'A'	Breweries	175
23	Low (Wm)	Food	175
24	APV	Industrials A-D	175
25	Providence	Bank, Discount	175
26	Hilldown (as)	Food	175
27	Wimpey G (as)	Building Roads	175
28	Coakson (as)	Industrials A-D	175
29	Sear	Industrials S-Z	175
30	Hambro Country	Property	175
31	BAA (as)	Transport	175
32	Wish Water	Water	175
33	First Leisure	Leisure	175
34	Tee & Lyle	Food	175
35	Renold Johnson	Building Roads	175
36	Wholesale Fittings	Electronics	175
37	Erskine Hse	Industrials E-K	175
38	Rever PLC (as)	Building Roads	175
39	Renold	Industrials L-R	175
40	LWT CP	Leisure	175
41	Smiths Ind (as)	Industrials S-Z	175
42	Ocean Group	Transport	175
43	Arab Energy	Oil, Gas	175
44	Seven Tint	Water	175

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

There were no valid claims for the £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize yesterday.

## BRITISH FUNDS

1989	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Div	Gross
<b>SHORTS (Under Five Years)</b>								
89% 1/2	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 3/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 1	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 1 1/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 1 1/2	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 1 3/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 2	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 2 1/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 2 1/2	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 2 3/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 3	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 3 1/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 3 1/2	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 3 3/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 4 1/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 4 1/2	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 4 3/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 5	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 5 1/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 5 1/2	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
89% 5 3/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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89% 37 1/4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
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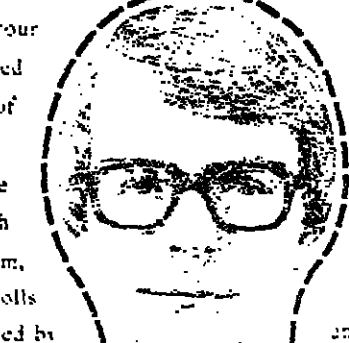
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# Unexpected success story

**Despite a shaky start, personal equity plans are now up and running, reports Neil Bennett. Plans proliferate, money pours in, and even Labour has softened its once tough stance**



Peps were the brainchild of Nigel Lawson, the former Chancellor of the Exchequer

When Nigel Lawson, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, introduced personal equity plans (PEPs) in his 1986 Budget, nobody could have predicted the turbulent beginning his creation would suffer. The simple tax break has swung from promise to near collapse to commercial success in the space of four years.

The arrival of Peps was no great surprise to economic commentators. The government was known to be keen to extend the shareholder democracy it believed it was building through privatisation issues. It wanted to encourage those shareholders to become more sophisticated in their investment behaviour while still backing British companies. The Treasury, meanwhile, was enthusiastic about any measure that promised to boost savings ratios.

However, the initial proposals for Peps disappointed savings experts. Mr Lawson stopped short of allowing tax relief on amounts invested in the plan, such as the former Loi Monory in France or Individual Retirement Accounts in the United States. He substituted this with a ragbag of allowances on withdrawals from the scheme, principally freedom from tax on dividends and capital gains tax (CGT).

Investment was limited to £3,400, while only £430 or a quarter of the plan, which ever was greater, could be invested in unit or investment trusts.

Asset managers balked at the problems and expense of establishing Peps schemes. However, they also saw the potential of marketing a new tax-free investment to the public. Two days after Mr Lawson's Budget proposal, Fidelity advertised that it would offer Peps schemes and

received 18,000 inquiries. In all, 250,000 investors took out plans in 1987, the first year of operation. Lloyds Bank took the lead, with 50,000 customers, followed by Save & Prosper, with 27,500. The fan club among investors and fund managers, however, proved to be short-lived.

Few investors make capital gains large enough to qualify for CGT. Since Peps investment then was limited to £2,400, the largest saving most investors could expect was £40 a year on dividend tax.

This was normally eaten up in the high costs of running the schemes, since managers were plagued with additional paperwork and the investment restrictions.

The cracks started to show when Fidelity, so keen to take an early lead in the market, decided not to offer a plan in

1988. It was followed by TSB, Barclays and Framlington. Even Save & Prosper questioned its commitment to the business, but decided to soldier on until the 1989 Budget.

Investors, too, had realised it would take years of faithful Peps investment before they began to notice the tax break, and plan numbers slumped to 100,000 in 1988.

Mr Lawson was faced with a mandate in 1989 to either scrap the scheme or save it from oblivion. He chose the latter, and his revisions have put Peps on a sound footing for the future.

His decision to increase the investment limit from £3,000 to £4,800 was predictable. More unexpected was the increase in unit or investment trust investment from a maximum of £750 to £2,400, and it

marked a reversal in government sentiment. Previously the Conservatives had advocated direct public investment in company shares. Now it seemed to have abandoned this in favour of professional management.

The chancellor also simplified many of the restrictions that had bedeviled earlier plans. The limit on cash holdings was abolished, but they were made subject to tax. The maturity period of a year was also dropped.

As a final boost, Mr Lawson changed the end of the investment year from December to April. This gave people a double investment opportunity. Peps customers could take out an old £3,000 plan and a new £4,800 one before the end of 1989.

Asset managers were delighted with the offering and piled back into the market-place. By April this year, investment had reached £1.5 billion, from 400,000 people. There are now more than 350 companies offering plans, while most managers are already seeing them rival their traditional unit trust sales.

As competition for Peps business has grown, the number of variants on a theme has also multiplied. Dominion Investment Management introduced a Peps mortgage repayment plan even before the 1989 Budget, since followed by Norwich Union and Sun Life. The schemes give investors the same benefits as any unit-linked repayment plan, which allows excess investment to be drawn out at any time (although under-investment must be made up), with the added bonus of tax-free income.

A selection of companies, including BAT Industries, Cable & Wireless and Smith & Nephew, has set up Peps schemes for shares, which are particularly efficient if employees combine them with share-ownership plans. There are a range of income plans that benefit from another rule change, that of allowing investors to withdraw their income gross. There are great Peps, and even an international Peps from Fidelity, which overturns the whole argument for the plans to boost investment in Britain.

Even the Labour party has softened its original stance against them. A group of Labour MPs recently met unit trust groups and suggested that Peps would play a part in their plans for industrial investment if they win the next election. Peps now seem established as a cornerstone of investment for the years ahead.

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Novice investors may think the acronym PEP is muddling enough in itself, but it is just the tip of an iceberg of potential confusion. There are more than 350 different Peps to choose from, designed for a bewildering variety of investment needs. Savers can have their funds managed for them or do it themselves. They can invest in unit trusts, investment trusts, a portfolio of shares or in a hybrid of trusts and shares. Peps can be used to pay off a mortgage, top up a pension or save for school fees.

The first choice to make is whether you want to manage the shares in the Pep yourself, or leave it to a professional. Most investors should, and do, leave it to the professionals, opting for so-called discretionary management.

Discretionary services cover Peps which invest only in shares and Peps which invest only in unit trusts or investment trusts. A third option is the Pep which invests up to £3,000 in unit trusts or investment trusts and a further £3,000 in shares.

The BEST Investment Publishing Company has researched every Pep on the market. It recommends Peps based on unit trusts or investment trusts because:

- They offer a diversified portfolio of shares and therefore a good spread of risk;
- Their performance can be monitored easily, by looking at the prices published in papers and magazines;
- They can offer an international content because the trusts are able to invest up to 50 per cent directly in overseas shares; and
- They offer the best value because the dealing costs are

## Discretion is the better part of Peps

Advice from the experts, and lots of it, should be sought on the bewildering array of schemes for every need, be it savings or mortgage repayments

usually similar to institutional rates (approximately 0.2 per cent) as opposed to private client rates (approximately 1.5 per cent).

Because only £3,000 can be invested in a straight trust Pep scheme, it is wise to opt for one with a share top-up facility. This means that another £3,000 can be invested in shares to take full advantage of the £6,000 tax exemption of a Pep. Even if you have no plans to invest another £3,000 when taking out the plan, your circumstances may change.

Before taking out one of these Peps, however, it is important to decide what you want from it. Victoria Philip of Fidelity, one of the biggest unit trust and Pep managers, says: "Remember your primary objective. Do you want a savings vehicle to build a lump sum, or a source of income?" The biggest unit and investment trust managers

offering Peps have an array of trusts. They are designed either to provide a high capital growth or a high income.

Those investors who opt for a discretionary Pep investing directly in shares will find it difficult to make comparisons between the investment track record of different managers. But they should ask the manager for some evidence of his track record during at least a three year period.

While the fees of a discretionary Pep do vary, they pale to insignificance compared with the investment records, so they should be treated with much less regard.

Comparative fees are evidently of much greater importance for those who decide to be their own investment managers and take out so-called self select Peps. Fees for what the BEST Publishing Company regards as an average investor, who switches

shares an average amount, vary between 1.7 per cent and 9.1 per cent of the Pep investment in the first year. Do-it-yourself investment managers should also check what restrictions a plan makes on their choice of shares. Many only cater for investment in the top 100 shares because this is sufficient for most people.

When choosing a Pep to top up a pension plan or pay off a mortgage it is important to choose a discretionary unit or investment trust Pep. A greater spread of risk, and consequently less volatility, is essential if the plan has to be cashed in at a future date. The Pep should also have a monthly payment facility.

Investors should be wary of the mortgage Peps which commit them to a plan for, say, 25 years. There may be extremely high costs to the investor to ensure the financial adviser introducing business to the Pep manager gets a good commission. Similarly, Peps managed by financial advisers generally have no advantages over any others, but have the disadvantage of an extra layer of charge. There is also potential for an adviser to "churn" the underlying portfolio of shares of trusts he is managing for you. In this case he would deal more than was warranted for investment purposes and pick up extra commission each time.

Regardless of which Pep you choose, it is important to understand exactly how the investment is managed and what it offers. Otherwise there is a risk you will pay extra high charges or simply get a Pep unsuitable for your needs.

RUPERT BRUCE

## Handy guide through a confusing jungle

Investors should put their first equity investment into Peps, says John Spiers, convert to the scheme and author of a guide. The news must get to the person on the street. Neil Bennett reports

MICHAEL POWELL



City view: John Spiers advises on choosing a plan

The world of personal equity plans (Peps) has grown quickly into a jungle to rival that of pensions or the second hand car market. There are now more than 350 plans, each with its individual charging structure, performance record, and band of salesmen determined to show investors and intermediaries that their plan is the one to choose.

Until recently there was little performance information to guide consumers through the maze. Last November, however, the BEST Investment Publishing Company, previously known for work on Business Expansion Schemes and Enterprise Zone Property Trusts, published a Pep Investor guide which attempts to give independent advice to ease the choice.

John Spiers, BEST Pep Advice's author, is a convert to the scheme, even though he started working on the guide only when the 1989 Budget changes made Peps more feasible. "This should be all investors' first equity investment," he says, "providing they have somewhere else where they keep their short term savings."

Most people should forget about trying to do their own stock-picking. Very few have the expertise or the time. Peps are now no more expensive than investment in normal unit trusts, and they should look at those instead.

So far this financial year, schemes have raised £200 million from 50,000 investors, after investments of £1.5 billion last year. Mr Spiers sees this as only a beginning. "The news is still not reaching the people it should but it was a good performance for the first year. I would expect investment to be running at double this in two years time. Many managers think annual sales of Peps will exceed unit trusts within three years."

He admits that the bulk of Pep investment still comes from wealthy individuals searching for tax shelters, and would like to see some marketing to bring home the benefits of unit and investment trusts to the person in the street. "A lot of it is down to the Unit Trust Association to launch a unified campaign for its members. If a tenth of the money which is spent on specific products was diverted to show the industry as a whole has a good record and a

low charging structure, managers would derive a lot more long term benefit."

BEST Pep Advice's figures show the benefit of long-term investment in a scheme. The saving from a single £4,800 plan to a basic rate taxpayer would only be £6 in the first year, rising to £36 after five. But a top rate taxpayer would gain £233 in the same five years, or £819 if the investor is subject to capital gains tax.

This is equivalent to a substantial 17 per cent of the original investment.

The comparison of the tax benefits on a longer term investment is even more startling. The return on £1,000 in a typical unit trust over 25 years is approaching £25,000. If the Pep tax-free status had been available, it would have been more than £40,000.

Mr Spiers explodes some long-term myths in his search

for the best Peps. His figures show that there has been no material difference in asset performance between unit and investment trust performance over the past year, and that investment trust outperformance was solely due to the narrowing of the discount.

He also risks the wrath of investment companies which would like to see their customers investing year after year. "I urge people not to enter into a long-term commitment," he says. He believes investors should choose a different plan each year, guided by investment performance and the need to spread their risk.

His report scrutinises each company's charging structure, and calculates it into an immediate realisation value (IRV), which is the amount an investor would receive if he cashed in his policy immediately after taking it out. This reveals marked variations. Lloyds and Perpetual have the lowest charges, with IRVs of 97.7 per cent. At the other end of the scale are Trumark and Whitechurch, with 88 and 88.7 per cent respectively.

But Mr Spiers stresses that charges should not play a major part in Pep selection. "Fluctuations in performance in the first year alone will be far greater than the range of charges," his guide states.

Instead, the centre of his research is the unit trust performance statistics which show which quartile each trust was ranked in over one, three and five years. In future, BEST Pep advice will take individual years to remove the distortion the figures can suffer if a trust performs exceptionally well or badly in a single year.

Despite the number of Peps already available, Mr Spiers sees development continuing. The international element is not being fully exploited, he believes, even though the limit on non-UK holdings was increased to 50 per cent of any plan in the last Budget. Also, more managers should add a cash option to their plans, allowing clients the chance to leave the equity market for short periods when it looks dicey.

● BEST Pep Advice is available from the BEST Investment Publishing Company, 4 New Bridge Street London EC4V 6AA (071-936 2037).

### TOP 20 PEP QUALIFYING TRUSTS - JULY 30, 1990

Value of £100 invested at beginning of the period on an "offer-to-offer" basis with net income reinvested

Over 1 year	£	Over 3 years	£	Over 5 years	£
TR City of London	123	Rights & Issues-Inc	188	Laurentian Growth	381
Laurentian U Value Assets	121	Rights & Issues-Cap	187	English Nat Debt	385
Dunedin Income Growth	119	Newton Income	144	Throgmorton Dist-Inc	361
Eagle Star Environ	118	TR City of London	135	Newton Income	360
Equity Consort-Deltd	116	Guinness Mahon HI Inc	131	Rights & Issues-Cap	351
Throgmorton Dist-Inc	116	River & Mercant - Inc	131	Fidelity Spec Sits	349
Newton Income	115	New Throgmorton-Inc	128	Sun Life Man HI Yld	344
Witan	115	Buckmaster Income	128	New Throgmorton-Inc	337
Yeoman - Income	114	Allied Dunbar As Val	128	PS Balanced Growth	335
Scottish Nat - Income	113	Scottish Cities	126	Key Income	334
Mercury Br Blue Chip	113	Fidelity Spec Sits	125	Govett UK Small Cos	324
Laurentian HI Income	113	Pembroke	123	TR City of London	313
Roy Trust Equity Inc	113	Temple Bar	123	Sun Life Mgd I & G	305
River & Mercant - Inc	113	Throgmorton Dist-Inc	122	Guinness Mahon Recov	298
Scott Prov Mkt Ldrs	113	Aelne High Yield	122	Temple Bar	293
Grofund Equity	112	Merchants	122	Guinness Mahon HI Inc	291
Govett GI Br Cos	112	Dunedin Income	122	M & G Recovery	290
Gartmore Br Growth	112	Lazard UK Income	122	M & G Mid & Gen	288
Scottish Cities	111	Trades Union	122	S & W Smaller Secs	285
Metheson UK Growth	111	Mercury Br Blue Chip	121	Aelne High Yield	282
FT All Share	108	FT All Share	110	FT All Share	224

Italic = Trust offered within a discretionary PEP; \* = no share top-up

### WHAT IT WILL COST

Self-select plan managers: first-year charges (per cent)

Manager	%
Alliance Trust	1.7
Lloyds Bank	2.7
Charles Stanley	5.0
Reigate Asset Man	5.0
Yorkshire Bank	5.1
Perpetual	5.4
Barclayshare	5.4
Redmayne Bentley	5.5
PH Pope & Son	5.5
Y Speke	5.8

\* Fees calculated on what is considered an average portfolio and include initial and annual fees and costs of obtaining companies' reports and accounts.

Source: The BEST Investment Publishing Company



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\*Source: Micropal Limited. Offer to bid, net income re-invested to 1st July 1990.

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More than four years on from the introduction of the scheme, what do the professionals say? Three experts give their views

## Most investors reserve judgment

HAVE personal equity plans (PEPs) been successful? With the PEP concept more than four years old, it should be possible to provide an informed response to the question. However, the answer depends on who is being asked.

On the face of it, PEPs have been an enormous success. My company has been producing a guide to PEPs since December 1986. In the first issue, we compared 16 schemes. We are working on the ninth edition, which will feature more than 300 schemes. Those figures alone suggest that PEPs are a success.

However, if the government was asked if PEPs had been a success, the answer should be no. The reason is that the original PEP concept was intended to generate wider share ownership. In this respect, PEPs have not been particularly successful. The majority of the £2,000 million invested



Growth: Michael Chadwick

in PEPs has simply been reapportioned from other investments, much of which was already in some form of equity environment. Many investors would have seen the attractive tax concessions and will simply be funding a PEP to provide a tax-free capital sum, or income.

The effect of direct investment into equities has been diluted further by the necessary inclusion of unit trusts

and investment trusts within PEPs. However, without these latter facilities, PEPs probably would never have got off the ground. The unit trust and investment trust companies needed the commercial motivation to administer, market and manage PEPs, and they have done a splendid job.

Most of these will judge PEPs a success. Some of the big players have taken more than £100 million into their PEPs. Investors will probably be reserving judgment on PEPs. Unfortunately, most investors will assess success on short-term performance. As a get rich quick vehicle there will be disappointments. As part of a longer term programme of tax efficient investment I would confidently predict that PEPs will be a success.

MICHAEL CHADWICK

● The author is the managing director of Chase de Vere Investments.

FOR basic rate taxpayers, the taxman takes a quarter of income and gains while higher rate taxpayers see 40 per cent of their income and capital gains expropriated. And if the Labour party wins the next election, it has indicated that top rates of income tax - and thus top rates of CGT - will have to rise substantially to meet their spending promises.

All the indications are that, although new PEPs may be banned under a Labour government, existing PEPs will keep their tax-free benefits.

Those who have substantial investment capital are making the best, and most efficient, use of PEPs: they invest directly into shares through their PEP, treating their PEP portfolio as a small, but growing, part of their overall investment funds. The individual who had a £100,000 portfolio in 1987, taking maximum advantage of the PEP rules, by now could have transferred more than £16,000 of the capital into PEPs, while retaining the direct equity shape of the overall portfolio including the PEP.

Look at the benefits if top tax rates go to 50 per cent. With a conventionally invested portfolio of £100,000, yielding a gross 6 per cent in dividends, after tax income is £3,000. But with £22,000 safely locked away in a tax free

## Just who gains?



Benefits: Michael Bryant

PEP, after tax income rises to £3,660 - a 22 per cent increase. Who needs tax free capital gains when the tax free dividend income benefit is so attractive from PEPs?

That may be all right for the "haves": they have the resources to put away the maximum allowed for PEPs each year, and because they have existing portfolios, there is less need to ensure a wide spread of investments within the PEP: their portfolio spread is obtained by combining their non-PEP and PEP portfolios.

But the PEP opportunity is nowhere near so great for the "have-nots". For those wish-

ing to save for the future, to build up their future portfolio of investments, the PEP limits for investment into unit trusts and investment trusts effectively operate to reduce the amounts they can save under the PEPs scheme.

This is because only £3,000 can be invested in unit trusts, and the balance of the maximum allowable subscription must be invested directly into ordinary shares. The costs and difficulties of dealing discourage ordinary savers from using this extra £3,000 to invest in the necessary wide spread of equities needed to create a balanced portfolio.

Somewhere along the line, the government has missed a trick: obsessed with encouraging direct equity investment, it has failed to give the maximum opportunity to the ordinary saver to use the PEP scheme to build up capital for the future. The "haves" are able to transfer £6,000 from their existing portfolio each year to build up their tax free PEP fund. But the "have-nots", are effectively locked into a £3,000 per annum maximum subscription if they wish to safeguard their savings in a wide spread of underlying investments.

MICHAEL BRYANT

● The author is the marketing director of Rathbone Brothers.

## More excitement with split shares

ASSUMING an investment into equities makes sense in the first place, investors' first priority must be to take up the full ration of PEPs, and as from this tax year it is possible to build in an international flavour to the portfolio providing it does not exceed 25 per cent of the investment.

What is disappointing at present is that the investment performance of PEPs is not more inspiring, and in many cases is below that of the All Shares index. But remember that a typical managed PEP has a portfolio of around only half a dozen shares, so that the performance of any individual share has a marked impact on the overall return.

One is also comparing a fund with management charges against an index that does not allow for charges.

Is there any way of gearing up the investment performance? The answer is yes, by including the income or capital shares of a split-level investment trust for an amount of £3,000 (this is the maximum PEPs entitlement for investment or unit trusts). These are fascinating investments made up of in-



Impact: Clive Scott-Hopkins

come and capital shares. The income holders get all the income, around double that from an ordinary share portfolio, while the capital shares receive all the growth, and are currently standing at a discount to net asset value of nearly 50 per cent.

A glance at the investment trust sector will give an idea of how exciting the split shares can be. For example, the two M&G capital shares (directly invested in two of its top performing unit trusts) are on current income yields of around 16 per cent and are not far off their all time highs in price terms, while Ambrose is on a staggering yield of 45 per cent, although the capital

value will nearly halve at redemption in less than a year. Very few investment trusts are available as tailor-made PEPs, but one worth looking at is River & Mercantile, which not only offers an income and capital split-level PEPs but the other half as well through a directly managed share portfolio.

The income shares, which stood at 92p at the end of March when the trust was "Peped", have gone to 105p after four months, being resilient in the current market setback supported by an income yield of 9.4 per cent.

The capital shares are back to 90p and are standing at a 46 per cent discount to net asset value, which discount has to close by the year 2000, when the trust is wound up.

The "gearing" in both the income and capital shares of the split-level investment trust half of the PEPs should ensure outperformance in both income and capital terms respectively and make for a more interesting PEPs.

CLIVE SCOTT-HOPKINS

● The author is a director of the Towry Law group.

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## WEEKEND MONEY

# Mortgage lenders turn to the rule book for safety

By RUPERT BRUCE

JUST as high interest rates are inflicting pain on home owners, mortgage lenders are learning from their mistakes and becoming more cautious.

Regardless of whether they are banks, building societies, or centralised lenders, mortgage providers are seeking to reduce the risk of borrowers being unable to pay.

They are doing this by sticking more rigorously to their rules for loan sizes and, occasionally, by removing products from the market.

Ian Darby, marketing director at John Charcol, the London mortgage broker, has noticed lenders becoming more cautious. "We are generally seeing a tightening of underwriting," he said.

Some mortgage lenders made mistakes in the heady days of the summer of 1988, when loans of four and five times annual income were available. A range of innovative, but often risky, mort-

gage products was also available.

With house prices rocketing, there did not seem to be any risk. If the borrower could not meet payments, the mort-

gage lender could repossess the property with little danger of a loss. But then interest rates rose and house prices fell. As a result, more houses were repossessed in the first half of this year than in the previous six months. The number of people falling behind with their mortgage payments is also at record levels.

The growing arrears problem has caused the Building Societies Commission (BSC) to lay down more stringent rules covering societies' marketing of new mortgage products. The amount of capital a society must have on deposit compared with its outstanding mortgage loans has been raised. The tighter rules cover loans to borrowers with records of bad debt payments,

loans where no proof of income is needed, loans where the lender takes a share in the property, and loans where interest payments are deferred.

The Bank of England has also cautioned mortgage lenders. Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the governor, told members of the Association of International Savings Banks in June that "they must market their products responsibly".

The Halifax, the country's largest building society, has restricted its lending practices. It has said that home buyers can borrow no more than three times their income, regardless of how much is being paid for in cash for a property. It has asked branch managers for more details when they think there is a case for exceeding such guidelines.

A spokesman emphasised that the changes were the result of a regular review of lending policy.

The Birmingham Midshires

society has asked its managers to refer to the area manager's office for approval of any borderline cases. Typically, these are where a borrower's present income is not sufficient to justify the desired mortgage, but is about to rise.

The centralised lenders, who obtain their business from mortgage brokers, have also become more circumspect. The Household Mortgage Corporation now has a direct contract with a number of surveyors it will allow to value properties. This is to stop them giving enhanced valuations to ensure more business from a particular broker and to protect against mortgage fraud.

Another centralised lender, the Canadian-owned CIBC, has decided to review its whole product range, while the Leamington Spa has scrapped its re-start mortgage, designed for borrowers with a history of bad debts.

## Portfolio

### PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below the week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 37).

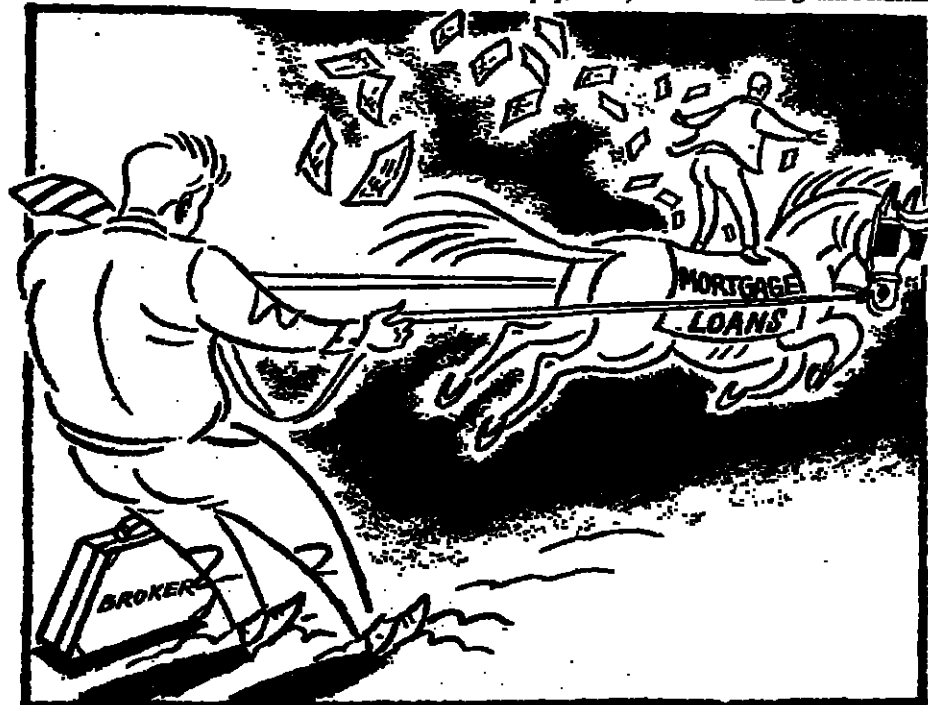
Stock	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Week
1	+1	+2	+2	+2	+2	
2	+5	+1	+7	+1	+1	
3	+1	+2	+2	+3	+7	
4	+1	+2	+2	+1	+2	
5	+1	+1	+1	+2	+6	
6	+3	+2	+8	+9	+1	
7	+5	+1	+2	+5	+4	
8	+1	+2	+1	+3	+1	
9	+1	+2	+3	+2	+4	
10	+5	+2	+2	+4	+2	
11	+5	+1	+1	+5	+2	
12	+1	+1	+1	+4	+5	
13	+5	+1	+1	+4	+3	
14	+3	+1	+5	+5	+3	
15	+2	+4	+1	+3	+1	
16	+1	+1	+1	+3	+1	
17	+1	+1	+1	+1	+1	
18	+1	+1	+3	+3	+5	
19	+5	+1	+7	+4	+1	
20	+1	+2	+1	+2	+1	
21	+1	+1	+2	+2	+7	
22	+4	+1	+5	+4	+2	
23	+5	+2	+2	+7	+4	
24	+1	+1	+5	+3	+1	
25	+1	+1	+1	+3	+1	
26	+2	+1	+1	+4	+5	
27	+6	+2	+1	+5	+2	
28	+5	+1	+5	+3	+1	
29	+2	+2	+2	+1	+1	
30	+3	+2	+8	+5	+1	
31	+1	+2	+1	+3	+5	
32	+3	+2	+5	+3	+1	
33	+5	+1	+2	+5	+2	
34	+1	+2	+1	+2	+1	
35	+2	+1	+1	+2	+2	
36	+8	+1	+4	+5	+2	
37	+3	+1	+5	+3	+1	
38	+5	+1	+3	+5	+4	
39	+2	+1	+2	+3	+7	
40	+2	+1	+2	+4	+2	
41	+1	+3	+1	+2	+1	
42	+2	+1	+3	+4	+5	
43	+7	+1	+1	+5	+2	
44	+3	+1	+8	+4	+1	

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## Charge brought in for deed storage

By BARBARA ELLIS

FREE services are becoming scarce. One more disappears this month as the Halifax Building Society introduces a £10 one-off charge for storing deeds on which mortgages have been paid.

The Halifax has 85,000 deeds in storage, with a token £1 left outstanding on each mortgage to keep it technically in force. This makes it possible for home owners to take a further loan without having to pay legal fees for a new mortgage deed.

Although existing customers will not have to pay the Halifax's new £10 fee, they will, along with new ones, have to pay a minimum of £5 plus VAT to inspect their

deeds or £15 to have them dispatched elsewhere.

Abbey National makes a flat charge of £35 for storage, which also covers any inspections, and the Nationwide Anglia asks for a one-off £15, plus another £15 whenever a customer wants access.

Barclays Bank stores deeds free for people who have paid off their mortgages, while at Lloyds, the charge depends on the size of the documents.

Midland Bank has a fee of £7.50 plus VAT, and £4 plus VAT for inspections.

National Westminster Bank does not have a specific deed service. However, it charges £5 a year for storing sealed envelopes.

## Fixed-rate bond introduced by Nationwide

NATIONWIDE Anglia is taking advantage of the impending change to paying gross interest to non-taxpayers by introducing its first fixed-rate investment bond (Rodney Hobson writes).

The bond will guarantee investors an annual 13.25 per cent gross for three years, with interest payable on June 30. The first payment will therefore fall beyond the April starting date set in the Chancellor's Budget this year for building societies to pay interest gross to non-taxpayers.

There is a monthly income option paying 9.37 per cent net until April 6 and 12.5 per cent gross subsequently. The account cannot be closed in the first year. Minimum investment is £1,000 and the maximum is £500,000.

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## WEEKEND MONEY

The unit trust industry is deciding on a catchy slogan. It might well turn out to be something like "place your bets" after the experience of recent years.

But many investors are wishing they had never heard of unit trusts, especially those who were caught up in the New Year euphoria spread by some investment groups. As the Berlin Wall came down, investors were invited to roll up and invest in the new Germany. There had never been a better time to buy. Pieces of the wall were even provided for some investors.

Those who went in at the height of the hype in January could have lost 20 per cent, and the immediate prospects are not too healthy.

Unit trusts are long-term investments, not cheap tricks to be turned. Unfortunately, the industry seems to be falling more and more into the hands of the marketing men, who seize every spurious opportunity to excite interest - usually after markets have been rising for some time. The new-age hype about Germany was just such a marketing

## Sales hype discredits unit trust industry

ploy. Investing in any single country is always risky. Not only do the individual businesses in that country stand a chance of failing, but the value of the country's currency may fluctuate too.

To make matters worse, the unit trust industry has tarnished its image by cooking the books over the years. In the first quarter of this year, the Unit Trust Association reckoned the industry had net sales of more than £400 million.

The Bank of England disagrees. Figures in its latest quarterly bulletin put net sales at £99 million.

The unit trust industry claims it is a matter of interpretation. To reach its figures, it has always added in sales of units to life assurance companies. This means that any funds life assurance companies have switched into units have been counted.

For years, financial journalists



## COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK

WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

have called the validity of such statistics into question.

At quarterly briefings on the statistics, fund managers and investment groups are hard-pressed to explain where the figures come from. Yet they do not seem to worry. They can count on a lack of sophistication on the part of the British investor. If they read in their newspaper that, say, £100 million has been invested in unit trusts, they will not imagine that only £25 million has been forked out by individuals or brokers.

In the same way, they do not question announcements of successful launches that tell of millions flowing in when, in fact,

much of the success might be due to a nifty internal transfer of funds. The marketing people know investors are lured into unit trusts because they think they recognise a bandwagon when they see one. They often plunge in at the top of the market. That is why sloganising can be dangerous. It appeals to the mentality of the short-term gain.

Unit trusts should not be in the business of hype and making a fast buck. They should be selling a long-term investment. And while the big money for the groups is to be made on lump sum investment, the best results are achieved for investors by investing little and often. Savings

schemes that enable investors to put £20 a month into funds are ideal. With them, a fall in the market can be greeted as good news. A 20 per cent fall means that their monthly investment buys 20 per cent more units. Then when the market rises there are more units to increase in value.

Investors can ride out stormy markets. With such schemes it may take some time to reach £500 invested, the usual minimum for lump sum investment. Groups still want to bring the money in fast. They should back the tortoise and not the hare.

## Homes at risk

One in four British households still has no home contents insurance, according to the Woolwich Building Society. In some areas, the figures are higher. Of the 2,800 homes affected by the Towyn

floods in North Wales, 40 per cent had no contents insurance and others were underinsured. These householders are having to rely on a public fund which has so far raised £600,000. This will not go very far.

Household insurers paid out £2.5 billion in the five weeks to the end of February to cover storm damage. But unfortunately memories are short, and those who did not suffer in the extreme weather conditions last winter will not expect storms, frosts or floods this year.

Now, ahead of the winter weather and the peak burglary season, anyone without insurance should be thinking about the risks involved.

Bad weather can destroy in minutes a home that has taken a lifetime to build up. It is not worth taking the risk.

In most parts of the country, replacing a stolen television set will cost more than the annual premium for the contents of a typical semi. Most households will never pay in premiums enough to pay for the damage caused by a burst pipe while the owners are away.

A PLAN to market Indian herbal medicines and therapy is among the more unusual investment opportunities on offer in about 40 business expansion scheme (BES) prospectuses.

But this particular proposal, from the Ayurvedic Company of Great Britain, has other uncommon features that investors should examine with care, according to analysts who are especially wary ahead of October 5. This is the deadline for BES investments, which can be partly offset against the previous year's income.

Ayurvedic is offering investors between 100,000 and 750,000 shares at £1 each: 50 times the 2p price paid by the directors and other founders for their 2.8 million shares. If the offer raises only £100,000, issue costs will leave the net asset value of 2.9 million shares at £85,000, or just under 3p per share.

The prospectus carries no financial projections, noting only that they have been prepared and reviewed by the company's directors and advisers.

Another note explains that no directors' service contracts exist, but that these will be prepared in due course.

John Spiers, of *Best Investment* magazine, described the price differential between the directors' shares and those on offer as "outrageous".

The usual arrangement with start-up companies was for shareholders and founders to pay the same price, since no goodwill was involved at that

## Essential insight into Indian herbal remedy found wanting

stage. He considered financial projections were an essential insight into what the directors' expectations were and what costs might be.

"It is almost unique to have no service contracts before a prospectus is issued."

If salary levels were not specified and the directors were majority shareholders they would seem able to vote themselves any amount of money, he said.

Govinda Warriar, Ayurvedic's chairman and chief executive, said projections would be supplied if people asked for them.

"Cash flows by their nature are speculative. We didn't want to make any overt claims."

The difference in the share prices had come about because the founders had invested far more over the last two years than the £56,610 they had paid for their shares. He estimated the total at £330,000.

They had secured exclusive distribution contracts with

three Indian manufacturers of herbal products, and six months ago opened a clinic with a staff of three in Earls Court, London.

"The entire time and money we have spent is not claimed back at all. Now, because we need more funds, this is the value our accountants have put on our research."

Mr Warriar added that the company's real mission was "higher than purely commercial", being to bring an entirely new science into the Western world.

"Our objectives are entirely humanitarian, but we have to make it economically viable," he said.

David McAlpine, a director and company secretary, at Ayurvedic, said that projections based on raising £450,000 showed a pay-back in terms of earnings per share after approximately three years.

If less were raised the company would have to prune down its expansion pro-

gramme, but the return would still be quite healthy.

Mr McAlpine said that service contracts for the directors would be drawn up. Relationships with the Indian suppliers depended on their presence in the venture.

"Voting ourselves large sums would be completely counterproductive. That is not the way we are going to proceed."

"I can assure you that the motivation behind this prospectus is not people making a fast buck at all."

Like Mr Warriar, he stressed that the main aim was to make Ayurvedic medicine available in the West.

This is Ayurvedic's second try at raising money. About a year ago, it spent three or four months approaching sources of venture capital in the City for about £2 million.

"We got pretty close, but they found it a little bit too way out - they were going very much for mainstream medical investments," he said.

Since the beginning of August, Ayurvedic has sent out between 7,000 and 8,000 BES prospectuses, offering intermediaries 5 per cent commission, against the more usual 2 per cent to 3 per cent.

The company felt that an extra incentive was needed at this time of year, said Mr McAlpine.

Some reasonable enquiries had come back, according to Mr Warriar, but as yet no money.

BARBARA ELLIS

## Value of 'frozen' pensions to gain from change in law.

By BARBARA ELLIS

PEOPLE currently changing jobs could miss out on huge increases in the value of their pensions if they let ill-informed salesmen rush them into buying a personal pension to "unfreeze" money locked into a previous employer's scheme.

This is because the transfer values of many deferred or "frozen" pensions could rise steeply during the next two years as a result of imminent changes in the law.

A transfer value is an estimate of the amount a pension scheme member would need to invest today to provide the same benefits as the scheme by the retirement date. Although scheme rules sometimes say that a transfer value must at least equal the amount of contributions paid by the member, there is no direct connection between the two.

Calculations are based on current interest rates, but use very conservative assumptions about likely rates of return on investments.

So it is all too easy for pension salesmen to produce illustrations based on different, standard assumptions, that appear to show a personal pension would give better results.

But such quotations often ignore the effect that changes proposed in the forthcoming social security bill might have on transfer values themselves.

Under the bill, the first use for a pension scheme surplus will be to provide increases to pensions in payment of up to 5 per cent a year.

It will also become mandatory for schemes to extend the revaluation of pensions for future leavers.

At present, any pension earned since 1985 has to be increased by 5 per cent a year from the leaving date until retirement. The new law will also apply increases to pensions earned before 1985.

Both changes would raise the final pension and therefore the amount of the transfer value needed to produce equal benefits.

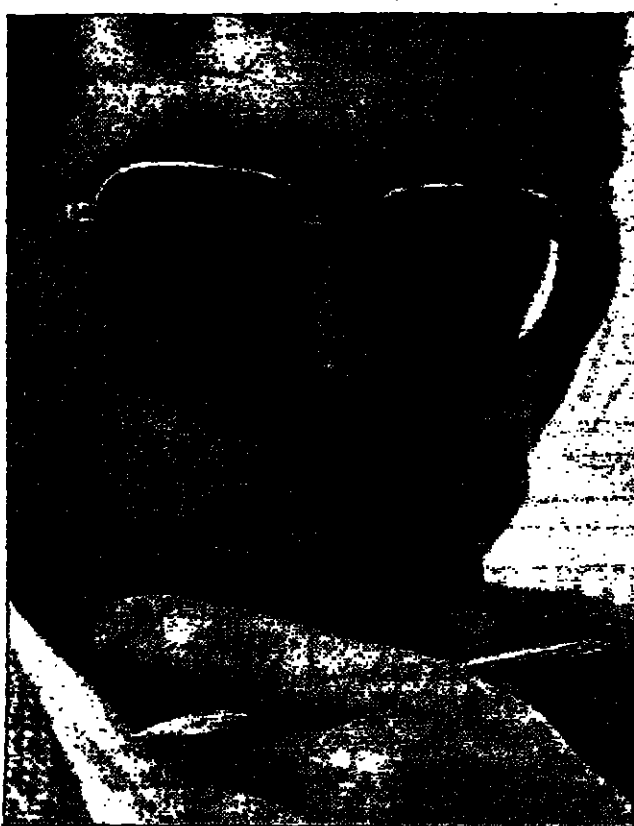
The recent European court decision in the Barber case, giving men the right to an equal retirement age to women, could also bring higher transfer values for men.

And, paradoxically, a fall in interest rates would also boost transfer values.

Ian Cartwright, an actuary with IS Cartwright, which specialises in advising individuals on transfers, says that it could become commonplace for transfer values to be more than double over the next year.

He points out that the increase in a transfer value in one year could come to more than the salary earned by the employee.

In an extreme example, a man might receive more than six times his present transfer value simply by waiting maybe 18 months for the main legislative changes to feed through and interest rates to



Wrongly advised: John Aston from Wolverhampton

fall, said Mr Cartwright. His calculation took a man of 40 earning £40,000 a year and leaving a company after 20 years, where the pension scheme provided one-sixtieth for each year of service.

Based on an investment return of 12 per cent a year (the redemption yield on long-dated government securities), the transfer value for this man would come to £12,000.

But the value would rise to £19,000 if interest rates fell by 2 per cent.

And it would jump to £32,000 if the pension scheme switched from paying a level pension to giving annual increases of 5 per cent.

Finally, increases on pensions earned before 1985 would again more than double the transfer value to £74,000.

All these factors make pension transfers a classic test of the "best advice" investment salesmen are supposed to give clients.

At National Westminster Bank, one of the few high street sources of independent advice, salesmen are under instructions to advise a delay in transferring pensions unless the existing scheme already provides for 5 per cent increases to pensions in payment or does not have a surplus to fund improvements for early leavers.

"We are forsaking a significant amount of commission each month, but we don't feel we have a choice," said a NatWest spokesman.

He pointed out that the bank was taking the same view as a number of major firms of consulting actuaries.

"Others are not as cautious," he said.

David Dow of Wyatt Personal Financial Services said that in the past six months his firm had recommended against pension transfers in about half the cases it saw, but

noted that the average adviser likely to be consulted by the man in the street was almost invariably suggesting transfers into pension policies.

One firm of actuaries administering a number of pension schemes has found lately that nine out of ten financial advisers do not ask for the basic information they need to make valid comparisons for their clients, but nevertheless manage to recommend they buy personal pensions.

At the end of last month, John Aston of Wolverhampton received a recommendation to buy a personal pension from Village Life Associates of Taunton.

Mr Aston had replied to a circular from Village Life directed at random to people in the Midlands thought likely to be living near the factories where they had worked.

He had worked for Ratcliff (Great Bridge) for 24 years until 1983 and had a preserved pension with the company's scheme.

He gave permission for Village Life to approach Clay & Partners, the actuaries, and administrators of the scheme, for information, and gave the firm his date of birth.

On the basis of the transfer value from Clay, Village Life then supplied a quotation for a personal pension from Legal & General using the investment returns of 8.5 per cent and 13 per cent prescribed by the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro).

In a letter, Andrew Salter, of Village Life, told Mr Aston that the higher rate of 13 per cent was modest compared with the 20 per cent annual average growth achieved by managed pension funds over the last 10 years.

"Obviously one is unable to predict what growth rates will

be achieved over the next 10 years, but since pension funds are tax-exempt it is fair to assume that 13 per cent should be easily achieved," wrote Mr Salter.

"And this being so, I am sure you will agree that a transfer would in your case be beneficial, increasing your pension by 30 per cent or more."

But Mr Salter told *Weekend Money* that he had no knowledge of Mr Aston's service with the company prior to 1983 and had not enquired whether the Ratcliff pension scheme was in surplus.

"It was nothing to do with me if they were or they weren't," he said. "It doesn't alter anything."

Referring to the possible effect of pending legislation on transfer values, Mr Salter said he recalled reading something on the subject. "Are the changes favourable or unfavourable?" he asked.

"Where would I, as a financial adviser, get that information?" he asked. "I find it very difficult to get information out of trustees as it is. I have never been given a breakdown of how a scheme stands."

Mr Salter said he would willingly alter the form of authority to be sent to potential customers, so that he could ask about a scheme's surplus.

"Generally speaking, I would say that most of the information we get from pension funds is scant. All we can do is base a recommendation on that."

Mr Salter said in his experience, transfer values were affected by interest rates, and that if rates rose, because of a Gulf war, values would fall.

"How can I work out what the future holds?" he said, suggesting that only consulting actuaries would have been aware of the social security bill until this month.

Having worked in the investment business since 1972, Mr Salter said he did not jump quickly in response to what might be speculation, but waited for things to happen.

"I can only really deal in things as they are today."

For pensions experts such as Bryn Davies, of Pensions Investment Research Consultants, the unfavourable activities of personal pension salesmen are an added argument for seeking advice from fee-based advisers rather than those working on commission.

"People who are independent are still tied to receiving commission," he said. "If you speak to any of the people who provide advice on a fee-paid basis, they think about things more carefully."

As the cost of advice usually comes to much less than the commission on a pension policy, someone buying through a fee-paid adviser would be likely to receive a refund of the difference between the fee and the commission.

## Credit card customers assured of recompense in Queensway case

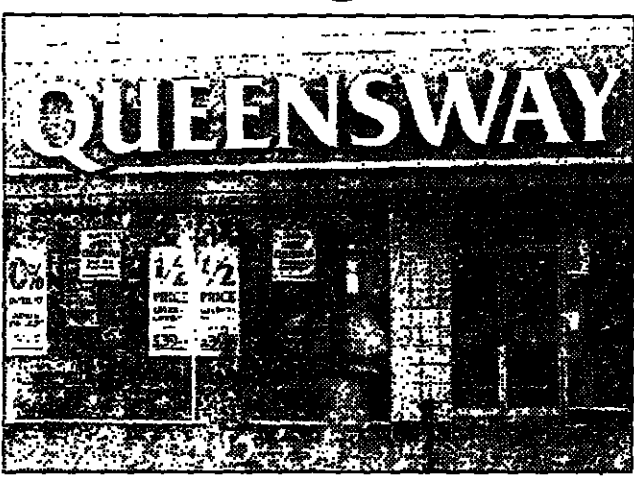
By LINDSAY COOK  
MONEY EDITOR

CREDIT card customers of Lowndes Queensway, the furniture and carpets group, have been reassured that they should receive all their money back even if the £15 million insurance bond taken out by the retailer is not enough to meet all claims.

The stores are believed to have been selling about £5 million to £6 million worth of goods a week, before going into receivership on August 15. About 30 per cent of the sales were paid for by credit card. While credit card customers should make a claim first of all through the administrators for payment from the insurance bond, the card companies are concerned that they should not have to wait a long time for a payout.

A spokeswoman for Barclaycard said that customers should approach the retailer first and if they receive no satisfaction, make a claim with the credit card company.

But there may be a battle between the credit card issuers and Midland Bank, which handled Lowndes Queensway's credit card vouchers. Under the Consumer Credit Act the card companies will pursue claims made against them for goods not received within 60 days with Midland Bank. A spokesman for the bank said this was a complex area that still had to be resolved, but should not affect the amount paid to credit card



Hope on the shopfront from an insurance policy

customers or the speed with which their cases were dealt.

Ian Lindsey, director of banking at Save & Prosper, said that credit card customers should lodge a claim with the administrators. If it became clear customers were not going to receive all their money back, card companies would pay out. They would ask the customers to assign their rights to compensation from the bond to them.

Some card companies may allow customers to make minimum payments on these debts until the matter is sorted out. The companies may then also reimburse any interest charged. But they are unlikely to credit the account until they know where the loss is going to lie. Most of the credit card companies carry insurance to

cover them for section 75 claims under the act. Technically the act would allow someone who paid the deposit by credit card to claim for the whole amount from a credit card company even if cash had been used to pay the balance. But credit card companies were likely to resist any such claims through the courts, said Mr Lindsey.

The Consumer Credit Act only covers sums of more than £100. The companies are looking at ways that they can still pay out if compensation from the insurance bond reduces claims to them to below the threshold.

Jonathan Phillips, a partner with Price Waterhouse, the accountancy firm appointed to administer the Lowndes policy, said the policy will be

triggered by the liquidation of Lowndes. This is unlikely to happen for some time and customers may have to wait several months before receiving any money.

Price Waterhouse co-ordinated claims when the Laker holiday firm collapsed. In that case, customers had to wait up to six months before receiving a payout.

Mr Phillips said it would be at least ten days before he knew whether the insurance policy would cover all the claims. Some customers who have a valid claim may yet receive their goods. If the total claim exceeds the £15 million available, a dividend will be paid representing a percentage of each claim.

He is optimistic that customers will receive close to 100 per cent of their money back. In the weeks up to receivership, Lowndes was asking for large deposits. The cost of processing the insurance claims, estimated at 45,000, will be met by the insurance fund.

Customers who believe they may have a claim should write, giving their full name, address and the amount of deposit paid, to: Lowndes Queensway Customer Deposits Limited, PO Box 4, London SE1 9QJ. There is also a telephone number which has 12 separate lines and will be manned between 9.30am and 5.30pm on weekdays. The number is 071-939-1111.

## Insurers seek growth in the courts

Some insurers underwrite the policies themselves, but most link it to existing insurance rather than offering "stand alone" policies. The majority of policies are taken out by individuals, although they are often available to companies and organisations such as clubs.

Mr Keith Loney, deputy chief executive of the Association of British Insurers, says: "People are becoming more and more aware of their legal rights and liabilities, but legal advice is expensive. Where legal aid is not available, legal expenses insurance is a practical and straightforward way of getting protection against the costs

of taking legal action. It has been recognised by the Law Society as an effective way of giving more people access to the legal system."

Insurers call on a panel of lawyers, and use local solicitors for routine contract disputes. Specialised representation is provided in complex cases. Usually, a policy holder has a right to object to the nominated solicitor and the insurer will offer an alternative name. The insurer will exercise the right not to pursue a case where it feels there is no reasonable hope of success.

Legal insurance covers launching as well as defending cases and can be used in

criminal and civil actions. Typical examples include suing a local council for injuries caused when a policy holder fell over a kerbstone, recovering the cost of car hire from the other driver in a car accident, and reaching a compromise with a neighbour over a house extension that restricted light.

Policy limits vary between insurers. Commercial Union, for example, charges £6.50 a year for domestic insurance that covers home such as disputes with neighbours or employers and goods and services bought.

Claims are limited to £25,000, but more than one claim can be made in a year. CU's

motor aid insurance, costing £8 a year, includes legal cover up to £25,000 with a 24-hour telephone legal hotline, but this service also includes help with breakdowns.

To help its new policy take off, Norwich Union is offering optional coverage up to £25,000 at £4 a year - half price - to household policy holders for the first year.

Royal Insurance covers legal expenses up to £50,000 under its Homeshield policy, while its Motorshield includes legal fees up to £25,000. Both Homeshield and Motorshield have a round-the-clock legal helpline.

Guardian Royal Exchange automatically covers £25,000 or £50,000 of legal costs on its household insurance, depending on the type of policy.

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## WEEKEND MONEY

# Son of an all-American boy strikes it lucky in Britain

By CAROL LEONARD

## BUSINESS PROFILE

Bob Bauman

TALL, handsome and charming. He does not smoke or swear, never loses his temper, is happily married and loves sport. Bob Bauman, the chief executive of SmithKline Beecham, is the original all-American boy.

Bauman, aged 59, wins at that description. "I suppose it's meant as a compliment," he pauses. "Thanks about it. It's the all-American bit that troubles me. I don't see myself like that."

But although he has travelled extensively on business, "I always have airline tickets and a passport," he says repeatedly — it was not until he took over the helm at Beecham four years ago that he had lived anywhere other than America. And he was unknown in Britain.

He made headlines immediately, being billed as the million dollar man. After an exhaustive ten-month search in Britain, Lord Keith, Beecham's stand-in chairman, had been unable to find anyone he considered capable of filling the vacancy left by the ousted Sir Ronald Haslam. The company needed to be turned around. Bauman, Keith concluded, was the man to do it. And he would be paid \$1 million a year.

Exchange rates aside, Bauman's salary has since more than doubled. Last year, he earned £1.26 million (\$2.42 million), making him the third highest paid businessman in Britain after Lord Hanson and Tiny Rowland.

I put the £1.26 million figure to him, seeking verification. He stared back blankly. "Is that what it is?" he replied. "I would have to look it up."

His justification for such salaries is well rehearsed. "We are a global company. Our compensation is not out of line with other global companies. To get good people you have to remunerate them well. I'm not embarrassed about the compensation this company pays."

Against comparable American companies, his package is not exceptional. "The gap between British and American salaries is narrowing," he says. But Sir Paul Glazman, the chairman of Glaxo, which is consistently more highly rated than Beecham, nevertheless earned a comparatively paltry £600,000 last year.

As for an American being chosen to run one of Britain's biggest public companies — SmithKline Beecham employs 55,000 people and is capitalised at £3.6 billion — Bauman points out that there are more British managers running American companies than the other way round. But he admits he was a little taken aback when Beecham approached him. Then vice-chairman of Textron, the aerospace and financials group, after a lengthy career with General Foods — his first job was as a coffee salesman "putting up posters in small retail stores and trying to get them to buy a few cases" — he was "interested immediately".

"I had travelled to London a lot and loved it, and so did my wife Patsy," he recalls. "So when the thought first came up for this job, which was quite a surprise, I was interested immediately. I liked London and I like global business. But it's always harder for the non-working part of the family. It has worked well with Patsy, however, although she did have reservations initially, about

the kids, the dogs and friends.

They are now so settled in their home in Chelsea that "when this whole thing is over we are likely to retain some sort of ties." While he admits that they may lose their daughter Elizabeth, aged 24, and a psychology graduate, to London, "because she likes it so much," there is clearly no question of him and his wife settling permanently in Britain. Even though he was born in Cleveland, Ohio, his house overlooks the Atlantic coast in Maine is "home".

"My sister lives in Maine and so does my mother and we go back there each year for almost the whole month of August. It's a great place to relax and just enjoy people. Patsy is still over there, on holiday." Their son John, at 27 the eldest of their two children, has just finished a college course in America and is likely to remain there.

"He's a very polished performer, he doesn't even use prompting cards when he makes a speech and he is a very, very nice guy. But he doesn't suffer fools gladly and you should never underestimate just how tough he is. I certainly wouldn't like to cross swords with him if my job depended upon it."

All-American boy or not, Bauman is the sort of man you can imagine enthusiastically cheering on his favourite football or basketball team on television, with a can of Budweiser in one hand and a slice of pizza in the other. Once a keen athlete, he used to go for a run every evening until an arthritic knee forced him to stop. "I do drink, beer and wine. But never the hard stuff, and never at lunch time. And I just adore settling down to a big piece of chocolate fudge cake, dripping in cream and ice cream," he admits animatedly. "I'm a chocoholic." "He's the sort of man who probably goes to church every Sunday," quips one observer. "I do believe in God, but I don't go to church," Bauman retorts. He laughs easily, is good company and is no doubt all too aware of his disarming charm.

But beneath that charm lies a steely manager, an ardent team player who will ruthlessly dispose of any member of his management team who does not fit in.

"He's a very polished performer, he doesn't even use prompting cards when he makes a speech and he is a very, very nice guy," says a City follower. "But he doesn't suffer fools gladly and you should never underestimate just how tough he is. I certainly wouldn't like to cross swords with him if my job depended upon it."

mindful by John Robb, then acting chief executive of the group. Robb resigned in 1988 just as earnings per share moved decisively ahead. He is now the chief executive of rival British pharmaceutical group Wellcome.

"The company had definitely turned the corner before Robb left. The short-term strategy to get Beecham's earnings back on course was his, he unveiled it three months before Bauman arrived," added the analyst. "But I guess the place wasn't big enough for both of them. He's a very laconic Scot and they were probably too much alike."

But what no one can take away from Bauman is the idea for and the implementation of Beecham's £9 billion merger with SmithKline, to create the second biggest research-based pharmaceutical group in the world. Many people doubted the wisdom of his master plan at the time. They said that the two could not be merged together. They were too big. It simply would not work. Those same individuals are now being forced to eat their words.

It is still early days, and Bauman has gone on record as

phrases as he speaks. "We are a new company." "We are satisfied." "We are encouraged." Sometimes they impersonate him. "I do use those words a lot," he admits, laughing. He had been unaware of their antics. "I'm obviously going to have to create some new ones." He is a man who wants to be liked and who obviously cares about what people think.

But when he has to abandon his business jargon, to talk about himself and more personal issues, he clearly finds it difficult. He may appear laid back, but he is never off his guard. "I'm not very experienced at this," he says, almost a little defensively. "I've never agreed to a personal interview before."

And an hour and a half into the interview, as we broached one or two more personal subjects, he suddenly referred to an appointment he was meant to have had half an hour previously. "I think I forgot to mention it." Perhaps it was true. Or just another business school technique. I persisted. His secretary then appeared to take something from his desk. "I know, is he waiting?" he queried as she opened the door. But she obviously had not heard. "Just ignore me," she said cheerily, instead. His escape route vanished silently from the room. We continued.

Bauman met his wife on a golf course in Philadelphia. "It was definitely interest at first sight — there's no such thing as love at first sight." Since he has been at Beecham his golf handicap has risen by four points to 12. He attributes the success of their marriage — when so many businessmen in comparable positions have tattered personal lives — to the fact that they married when they were 30. "I'm sure the fact that we married quite late has helped. You change so much between the ages of 20 and 25."

And a book he once read, *Self Renewal* by John Gardner, has been a major influence. "It's basic philosophy was that every ten years any organisation or individual should stop and take stock and restructure themselves — in order to go on developing. I've been lucky. Every 10 years an opportunity has come along for me to do just that."

A keen horticulturalist, he is a trustee of the Royal Horticultural Gardens, Kew, and is also on the board of managers of the New York Botanical Garden. His book *Plants as Pets* tells readers how to adapt houseplants to their lifestyles, rather than the other way around. "It was written at 35,000 feet, in an aeroplane." He used to breed orchids and talks about his plants with affection.

Bauman also keeps poodles, two in America and one in Britain. His one regret is, he says, that he did not spend more time with his children when they were growing up. "Patsy had to bring them up on her own." Beneath the facade, he is clearly an emotional and affectionate man.

But perhaps most revealing of all is his admission that his role model was his father, the chief executive of a large trucking company. "I was very fond of him. He was busy, but a good father. He liked sports, liked people, was very friendly. I admired him very much. I suppose, if you must, he was an all-American boy."

Bauman uses business school jargon frequently. He spent two years at Harvard. Analysts at results briefings play games by listing his catch



One man and his dog: Bob Bauman in the garden of his Chelsea home with Alex, one of his three pet poodles

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## Checking out a lack of grand hotels

FROM the outside, the Hotel Europa, in Prague's Wenceslas Square, lures the unassuming visitor into admiring one of the city's, and indeed one of Europe's, oldest and grandest hotels.

Located on the edge of the historic square, the Hotel Europa, with its art nouveau facade, in keeping with adjoining buildings, reflects the style of a capital that lays claim to be Europe's most picturesque city.

Once inside the hotel, however, the visitor is suddenly reminded of 40 years of communism. Not a grand hotel in the least, not even second class, but more like a shabby guest home. The rooms are basic and there are no telephones.

Europe might perhaps be an extreme case. However, it reflects the lack of a tourist infrastructure in Eastern Europe. Nationals of the European Community no longer need visas to enter Czechoslovakia, and recent media coverage of Eastern Europe has played its part in adding to the country's image abroad. But it is primarily the lack of available hotel space and the quality of the hotels which exercises the single largest constraint on tourism in the region.

Even those hotels which can call themselves grand, like the Alcron just off the square, are not up to West European standards. On first impressions, the Alcron evokes images of turn-of-the-century Europe. Black-tied attendants are in abundance and a pianist plays Schubert: a scene straight from the pages of a Thomas Mann novel.

Yet, even at the Alcron, the quality of the service fails to match appearances. The telephones reach no further than the

## CAPITAL CITY

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN PRAGUE



Old style, poor content: the Alcron reception desk. Wake-up calls may be part of the service, but their execution is mostly forgotten.

Room service displays the strongest discrepancy between style and content, when the food, usually sauerkraut and

dumplings, is artistically arranged on a silver plate. Czech charm is easily the most effective shield against undue complaints.

The visitor will have no better luck with Prague's restaurants, which are constantly overbooked. U Sloupu, outside the city centre, is acknowledged as one of Prague's best.

I recall one Friday night when, despite a reservation, the manager refused my humble request to enter the place because it was overbooked, or so he said. After a small fracas, and a not unsubstantial Deutschmark transaction, my guest and I were finally admitted, only to discover that less than half the seats were taken. And once again there was no alternative to the inevitable dumpling, sausage and sauerkraut cuisine.

It is not surprising that western hotel chains are keen to enter the eastern market. Europa, I understand, has five western hotel groups, including Steigenberger of West Germany, queuing up for a takeover.

But the Czechs, aware of the potential prices its art nouveau properties might fetch one day, are reluctant to sell on the cheap what might turn out to be the country's single largest asset.

The lack of space and planning restrictions preclude the building of new hotels in the city.

Despite the democratisation of Czechoslovakia, and the promised reform of its economy, tourists and businessmen in Prague will have little choice but to put up with those central European anachronisms for a little while longer.



## MONEY

## SUMMARY

## Fimbra obtains warrant

A WARRANT was issued for the first time under the Financial Services Act this week to allow the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association (Fimbra) to search the business premises of a broker in Northern Ireland.

When investigators entered the premises of Edward J McCann Brokers in Portadown, County Armagh, they were concerned by "the absence of records". The firm was suspended by Fimbra on July 25.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary is helping with the investigations.

## Loans launch

Abbey National is to introduce a fixed-rate mortgage on Tuesday at 13.7 per cent until the end of 1992, and expects people struggling with record rates of up to 15.4 per cent to apply. Meanwhile, some mortgage providers are tightening up their lending procedures. Page 41

## All-American



Bob Bauman, the million-pound man behind Smith-Kline Beecham, justifies his salary. He told Carol Leonard how he began his career pasting up posters in grocery stores across America. Page 43

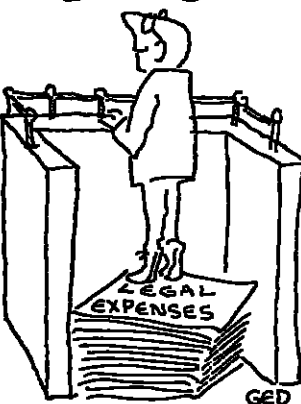
## Cold comfort

People with pensions frozen in a previous employer's scheme could lose out if they transfer funds in the next two years. The value of frozen pensions could rise by up to six times their current level. Page 42

## Bond payout

Customers who have paid deposits to Lowndes Queensway are waiting for news of the likely insurance bond payout. Meanwhile, credit card companies have said holders will not lose out. Page 42

## Legal eagles



Legal insurance is a growth area for insurance companies who are making it easier to go to law. Page 42

## BUSINESS

## Power pair

PowerGen shares will be paired with those of National Power, the larger of the two electricity generators, if flotation goes according to schedule in February. Page 32

## Royal return

The founder and former chairman of Regatta Health and Beauty, Irene Stein, is to return to the royal jelly company from which she was ousted in a boardroom coup last November as a consultant, earning £40,000. Page 33

## Tokyo rallies

Share prices rebounded in Tokyo for the first time in seven days after bargain-hunting and official efforts to support the market. Page 34

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## Credit reference agencies face action for contravening data protection laws

About 100,000 new borrowers every year find their names are blackened by the credit records of others.

Money Editor Lindsay Cook reports on moves to end the practice

THE data protection registrar is expected to confirm next week that he will take legal action against the four largest credit reference agencies for allegedly blackening the names of customers who apply for credit by passing on details of the debts of other members of their households.

Eric Howe, the registrar, says agencies should only pass on information to lenders about the person applying for a loan or other credit. Instead, they have been giving details of the credit records of previous occupiers of the same address, or other people living in the same house at the same time.

And in some cases, they have been providing lists of credit transactions, debts and county court judgments relevant to people who lived at an applicant's former address. Such information about a former lodger, adult son or daughter, disadvantages about 100,000 people a year when they apply for credit, says Mr Howe. They are effectively tarred with the same brush as a debtor in the same household, despite such use of credit records being prohibited under the Data Protection Act.

The four agencies were given until August 6 to agree not to use third party information, but they have not done so. This week the Data Protection Registrar indicated that legal action would be taken against CCN Systems, Infotek, Westcot Data, and Credit and Data Marketing Services.

Lenders who use the agencies still want to use information not only about loan applicants, but also about the people who live with them. Their trade body, the Industry Forum on Data Protection, representing building societies, finance houses, retailers and mail order companies, has agreed that from the end of next July it will no longer expect agencies to supply information about people with different surnames who formerly lived at the same address.

The National Consumer Council (NCC), says more information should be on credit reference agency records. It wants details of serious mortgage and rent arrears to be available to lenders. In its report, *Credit and Debt: The Consumer Interest*, the NCC argues that lenders should know about a household's gas, electricity and water debts.

It says: "Additional data would help to pin-point more accurately those already struggling to meet household commitments and for whom more credit would bring worse financial problems." More than a million bad debts a year would be added to the records if the utilities, local authorities and building societies supplied information. "Default details like these are, we believe, even more pertinent to assessing the risk of financial overcommitment than the data used now."

The agencies have records on most adults in Britain. All 44 million people on the electoral register are on file. This gives surnames, first names, full postal addresses and length of residence. The ten million or so county court judgments made in the last six years are listed, as are all bankruptcies. Lenders also supply information about customers'

credit records. It is categorised into "black" and "white" information.

Some lenders, such as banks, provide information only on customers whose accounts are in default, and even then give borrowers 28 days' notice that information on their bad debt will be handed over. Others also provide details of all the accounts a customer has. They give the current balance plus a payment profile. These figures tell potential lenders whether the customer's payments are up to date, if a payment has been missed, or if the account is in dispute.

Some categories of lending are more likely to end up on the files of credit reference agencies than others. Mortgage arrears, debts on most bank accounts, arrears on credit cards, poll tax, rent, gas, electricity, telephone or income tax will not appear on the files of agencies unless the debtor has been taken to court or is in default.

Debts with retailers, finance houses or mail order catalogues, on the other hand, are almost certain to be recorded. A county court judgment would remain on records for six years, while a bad debt that did not reach court is likely to be removed after three. The vast majority of people who have their homes repossessed do not appear on the files.

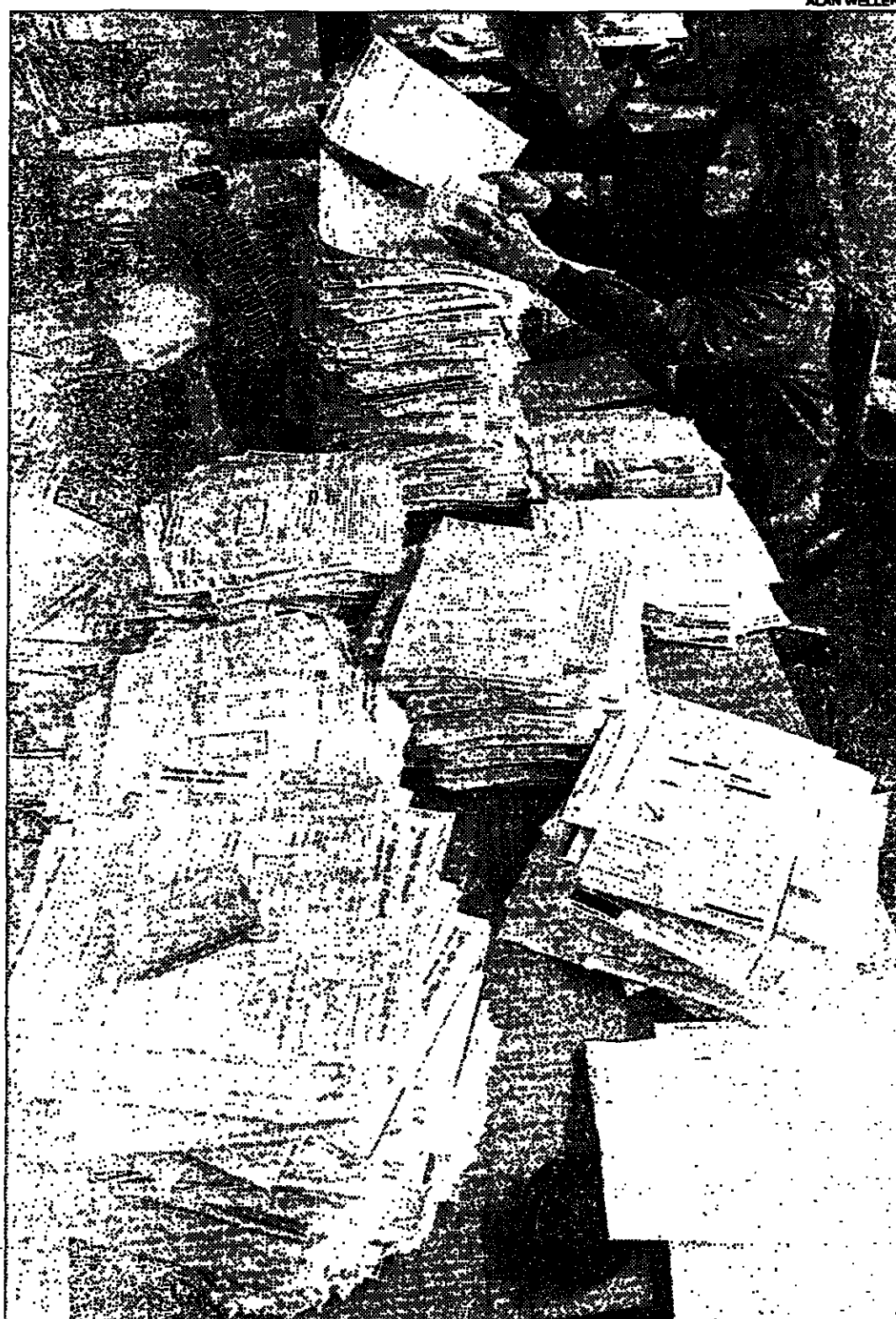
Anyone applying for credit from Marks and Spencer is told that the information given will be entered on computer. It checks information on public record and credit reference agencies files. The store says: "Favourable information may support your application, but if you are already having difficulties, it may not be in your best interest to have more credit."

Credit reference agencies will supply public information from electoral registers and county and bankruptcy courts to any subscribers. To obtain more information lenders have to provide more. Those who reveal the debts of their own customers receive black information from other subscribers. Two years ago, banks began providing information on loan accounts that had gone into default. Now they are beginning to share white information on some accounts. Bank customers who do not want such information to be held on computer must read the small print on any application.

Bad debts on unsecured loans are forcing building societies to look at how they can improve vetting. Most use the public information from credit reference agencies. Branches are often computer-linked to an agency so that when customers want to open a current account, take out a credit card, or open an investment account staff can check they are on the electoral roll, have no court judgments against them and are not bankrupt.

A few mortgage lenders are starting to offer information to agencies on serious arrears. The Leamington Spa Building Society gives data on serious arrears to CCN Systems and in return learns about other debts that mortgage applicants might have.

Bob Neill, managing director, said: "If someone's in arrears with another lender you want a good



Debt burden: the Registry of County Court Judgments passes details to reference agencies

explanation before making a loan." The Abbey National is also supplying black information on mortgages and receiving debt information back. The Abbey has a pilot scheme using credit scoring and credit rating for mortgages.

"The only information we supply is on mortgages in the pilot branches, where arrears are serious enough to consider repossession. The customer is always informed in advance," it said.

Everyone has the right to have incorrect information held amended. Most people check their files after being turned down for credit. Infotek calculates that for every 1,000 credit searches it carries out 13 consumers request their files. And about 10 per cent of those consumers ask for additions or amendments to be made.

Anyone turned down for credit should ask the retailer if they used an agency, and for its name and address. They should then write enclosing a £1 fee asking for any information on file. The agency is required to reply within seven working days. The file should include all the information that would be supplied to a subscriber.

The payment profile used by the agency will be coded. Generally, the lower the numbers the better the payer. If the information

appears incorrect, a written request should be made to change it.

The Registry of County Court Judgments supplies details of all judgments to the main reference agencies and also undertakes to pass on any notices of correction from one agency to the other three. In the first half of 1990 about 1,000 notices were exchanged.

Members of the public can find out what is on record at the registry. Personal visitors to the

office at 173 Cleveland Street, London W1P 5PE, can search the register for £1. Postal enquiries cost £2.

Information is only supplied on the name and address requested. A woman from Rochdale, Greater Manchester, who asked what was on record about her, was not told about the judgments against a neighbour with the same surname. A woman from north London who wanted to know what was on her

records was told of the judgment for £178 against her, plus two larger sums for a man who appeared to live at the same address.

Some lenders only use information about people with the same surname as the applicant at the same address. But others argue that information about other people living at the same address at the same time as a borrower is relevant. From the name alone it is not possible to determine relationships. It may be that two people with different surnames at the same address have separate flats, or they might be married and use different names, or may live together.

Brian Bailey, managing director of Infotek, said that one of the problems in Britain was the lack of an identity number. His agency only supplies information on the exact name and address of an applicant from private information. On public information it supplies name and close matches of both the name and address. If a husband applied for credit, the lender would not learn of the wife's credit agreements unless they were a matter of public record.

Simon Moulton, assistant data protection registrar, said that the proposal from the industry forum would still mean that people would have their chance reduced of obtaining credit by information that did not relate to the applicant. Third party information has been a major source of complaint. Several hundred complaints were received last year.

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of the Office of Fair Trading, told the Institute of Credit Management, that the growth in credit had brought with it problems of default.

"For responsible and, indeed, profitable lending, creditors clearly need information to confirm the identity of the borrower, to confirm that he or she has no history of repayment problems, and such other information as is necessary to make an informed assessment of the prospect of repayment and risk of default."

Sir Gordon said he was happy with the view of the Jack Committee on banking that white information should be disclosed only with the customer's express consent. I do not see why a bank should not require express consent as a condition to the grant of a loan." In Holland, all consumer credit agreements are required to be registered with an agency. The NCC, says that such a system "would certainly throw up a great many instances of multiple debt and has much to commend it. However, extending white information to agreed overdrafts and other personal account details would not, we believe, significantly reduce default and credit casualty."

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## Registrar awaits computer files hearing against the Halifax

LEGAL action by the data protection registrar is already being taken against the Halifax, Britain's largest building society, for information it kept about customers on its computer files.

The case, which was originally scheduled to start last October at Halifax magistrates' court, is now expected to be heard towards the end of this year.

Under the Data Protection Act companies and other organisations are required to notify Eric Howe, the registrar of the kind of information they keep and why they store it.

The case under section 5(2)(d) of the Data Protection Act relates to the use by the society of personal information for the purpose of crime prevention and the prosecution of offenders. It alleges that the society held personal data without registering it under the Act.

A spokesman for the society said: "We will defend the summons vigorously as we are satisfied that the Halifax has at all times complied with the provisions of the act."

The Halifax, like other societies



Taking action: Eric Howe

and banks, keeps information on its computer to counter fraud and other crime.

For example, if money was fraudulently withdrawn from a customer's account the society would look at all the information it held to establish the extent of the fraud and to help it trace the people responsible. In this way it

has been able to help the police to deal with cases of extortion and major fraud.

The registrar wants such information to be registered separately under the act, whereas the society believed that the use of information for this purpose was a normal part of the administration of customer accounts.

Societies have been urged this year by the Building Societies Association to be more vigilant when opening accounts, to prevent stolen cheques being cashed through them, and to watch out for suspicious deposits that might be drug money.

Banks have been particularly concerned at the apparent ease with which cheques could be paid into building society accounts and withdrawn as cash without adequate checks being made to verify the name and address of the new account holder.

The Halifax did register the use of its information for crime prevention and prosecution purposes in October 1988. The case refers to information held about a customer before October 1988.